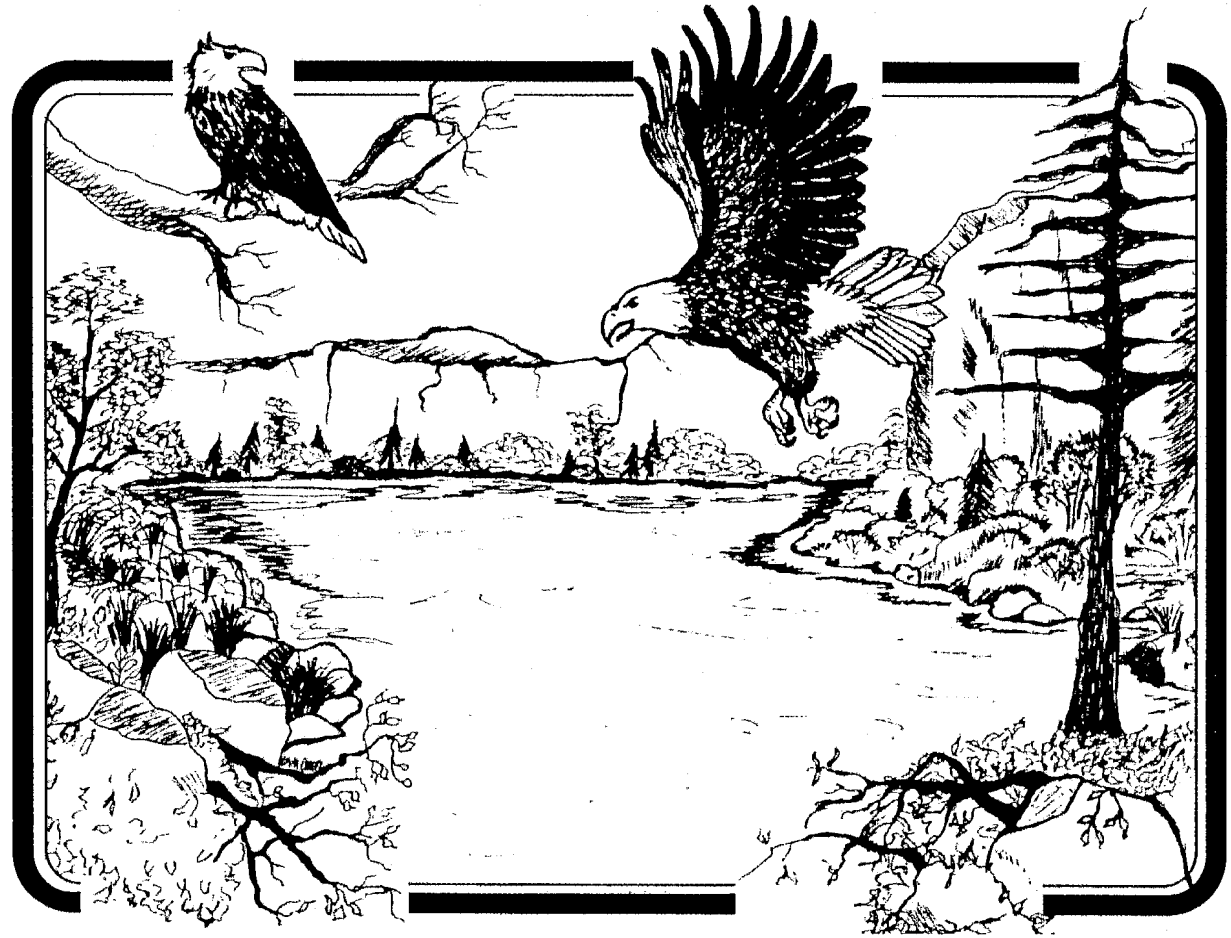
WALLOWA & GRANDE RONDE RIVERS

FINAL MANAGEMENT PLAN/ ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

DECEMBER, 1993



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Vale District
Baker Resource Area

U.S. Department of the Agriculture
Forest Service
Wallowa-Whitman National Forest
Umatilla National Forest

Washington State
Shoreline Program
Asotin County

Oregon State Parks &
Recreation Department
Scenic Waterways Program

As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering the wisest use of our land and water resources, protecting our fish and wildlife, preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historical places, and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The Department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to assure that their development is in the best interest of all our people. The Department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in Island Territories under U.S. administration.

BLM/OR/WA/PL-94/3+1792

8300

Dear Interested River Public:

Enclosed is a copy of the Management Plan for the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers. Development of this plan has been a four year effort between the public, three citizens planning teams, various county and state agencies, Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department, Washington State Shoreline Program, the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management. The primary purpose of this plan is to provide management direction for the Outstandingly Remarkable Values found within the river corridor designated as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and those river segments and accompanying resource values that are not under federal designation.

Specific elements of the plan include a desired future condition of the river corridors, design standards, and management guidelines for recreation, fisheries, water, scenery, cultural, transportation, and land acquisition. Also included is a monitoring plan that identifies the elements to be monitored throughout the life of the plan, and a list of projects that will be implemented pending funding.

The final Environmental Assessment (EA) identifies issues and analyzes alternatives and their impacts for management within the River Corridor. The EA has been incorporated in Chapter 7 of this river management plan.

If you have questions about the management of the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers, contact Dorothy Mason, Acting Area Manager, Baker Resource Area, (503)523-6391; Tom Reilly, District Ranger, Walla Walla Ranger District, (509)522-6276; or Glen McDonald, District Ranger, Wallowa Valley Ranger District, (503)426-4978; Gary Miniszewski of Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department, (503) 378-6378; or Don Brigham of the Washington Shoreline Program, (509) 758-9646.

James E. May
District Manager
Vale District

John P. Kline
Deputy Forest Supervisor
Umatilla National Forest

R.M. Richmond
Forest Supervisor
Wallowa/Whitman National Forest

Robert L. Meinen
Director
Oregon State Parks and Recreation Dept.

Don Brigham, Jr.
Shoreline Administrator
Washington

Executive Summary

The Omnibus Oregon Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1988 directed the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and Forest Service (FS) to develop a management plan for the designated portion of the Grande Ronde River and at the same time directed the FS to conduct an eligibility/suitability study on the Wallowa River to determine its status for National designation. The lower 36 miles of the Grande Ronde River in Washington is not presently managed as, or listed as, a study river under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. However, the Washington Legislature is considering the Washington segment of the Grande Ronde for Wild and Scenic River nomination. These three river segments are currently managed as one river corridor under the direction of the Baker Resource Management Plan (BLM) and the Forest Plans of the Umatilla and Wallowa/Whitman National Forests. A portion of Wallowa Study River and Grande Ronde Wild and Scenic River was also included in the Oregon Scenic Waterways program via 1988 Ballot Measure #7 (Oregon Rivers Initiative). This program, established in 1970 by the State of Oregon, is administered through the State Parks and Recreation Department. The Oregon Scenic Waterways Program also requires that a management plan be made. Early in the process, all three agencies agreed that one plan should be made which encompasses the whole river and meets the planning requirements for each agency. In order to assist in the development of this river plan, the BLM, Forest Service, and Oregon State, solicited the support and input of three citizens ad hoc teams, representing a wide range of interests and backgrounds. One team on the Wallowa segment assisted the Forest Service with the Wallowa River Eligibility/Suitability study as directed by the 1988 Act and two teams, one in Oregon and the other in Washington, assisted the BLM in management plan requirements as directed by the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and the Baker Resource Management Plan.

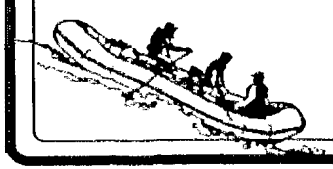
This document was created to establish a comprehensive management plan for entire 90 mile stretch of the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers from Minam, Oregon to Heller Bar, Washington. The intent of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and the primary goal of the plan is to maintain the free-flowing character of the river and protect the important values of the river. The plan will provide general umbrella guidance and direction for future management decisions and actions concerning the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers.

The level of planning of this document provides the framework and authority for site specific planning within the river corridor. Site specific project planning such as survey and design of road and trail access, staging areas, riparian enhancement, livestock management work, water developments, signing, cultural resource protection, wildlife habitat improvement, reclamation projects, etc., will meet the protection and/or enhancement criteria of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, the Oregon State Scenic Waterways Act, and the Washington State Shoreline Act as directed by this plan.

By designating a segment of the Grand Ronde River a National Wild and Scenic River, Congress directed the administering agencies to develop a river management plan for the designated river segment within three years of designation. The Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers Management Plan provides general direction and guidance for the protection, restoration and enhancement of the outstanding remarkable values and other resource values within the river corridor and accommodates public use consistent with the applicable acts.

The plan contains five major components: 1-the Wallowa River (study river segment) from Minam to the confluence with the Grande Ronde River at Rondowa, 2-the Grande Ronde River designated under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act from Rondowa to the Oregon/Washington stateline, 3-the Grande Ronde River from the Oregon/Washington stateline to the Snake River at Heller Bar, 4-the Administrative Rules for private land under the Oregon State Scenic Waterways program, 5-and the Administrative Rules for private land under the Asotin County, Washington, Shoreline Program.

The plan develops management strategies for public and private land within a corridor that averages 0.5 miles in width and 90 miles in length. These strategies include cooperative developments and jointly funded projects. The plan is focused primarily on activities within the corridor that may affect or be affected by the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, the Oregon State Scenic Waterways Act, and the Washington State Shoreline Act.



Planning issues were identified through sixteen public scoping meetings held in Baker City, Troy, Enterprise, LaGrande, Pendleton, Imnaha, Richland, and Ukiah, Oregon and Clarkston, Washington. Concern for the Wild and Scenic Rivers and State Scenic Waterways designations and how they affect private land, recreation use of the corridor, multiple resource use of the corridor, and management direction were the major topics of public interest.

Alternative management options identified in Chapter 7 (Environmental Analysis) range from commodity/economic emphasis to naturalness/preservation emphasis. Each of the options are within the parameters of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, the Oregon Scenic Waterway Act, Washington State Shoreline Act and agency land use plans, where they apply.

Corridor management will integrate the entire system from Minam, Oregon on the Wallowa River to Heller Bar, Washington on the Grande Ronde River into one plan. Although most of the land along the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers is managed by federal agencies, other state and local government agencies, landowners and private parties have vested interests in the resources of the rivers and adjoining lands. Agencies cannot effectively manage the river area without interagency cooperation and public support. The agencies will also explore ways of improving formal communication regarding river management.

Organization of this Document

This document is in eight chapters:

Chapter 1: provides background information on the management plan, management planning process, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, relationship of the plan to other jurisdictions and authorities, and public involvement.

Chapter 2: describes the affected environment, the Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV's), the physical, biological, social, and economic resources of the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers between Minam, Oregon and Heller Bar, Washington.

Chapter 3: describes the management objectives and constraints, issues, and the management actions to be implemented within the Wallowa/Grande Ronde corridor. These actions relate directly to the issues identified at the public scoping meetings and the mandates of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

Chapter 4: describes the Oregon State Scenic Waterway Program.

Chapter 5: describes Washington State (Asotin County) Shoreline Program.

Chapter 6: provides basic cost or funding requirements for implementation of the river plan.

Chapter 7: contains the Environmental Analysis and Decision Notices for this plan.

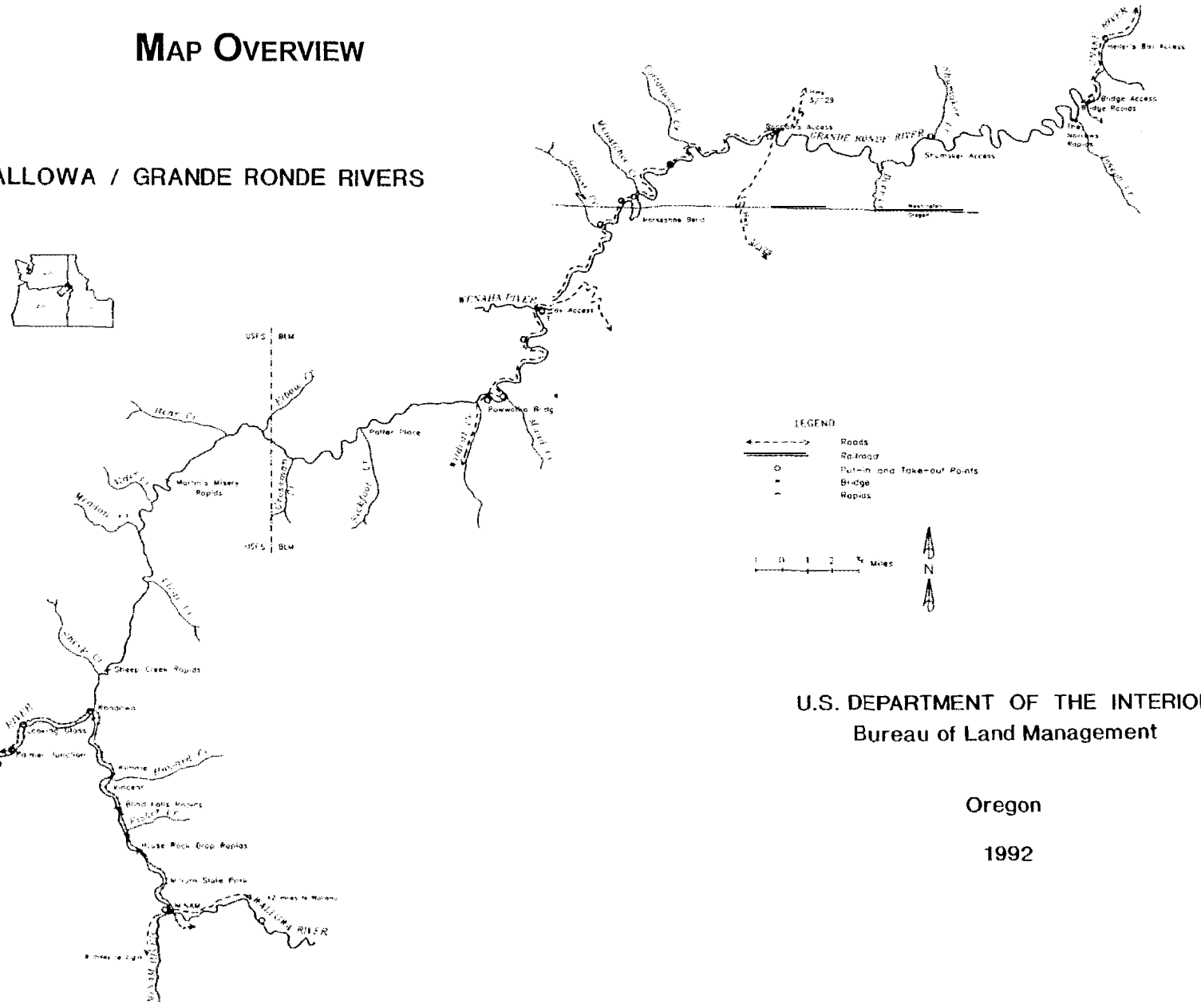
Chapter 8: contains the appendices for this river plan. Appendix A, is boundary descriptions; Appendix B, is the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum; Appendix C, is planning participants; Appendix D, is the bibliography; Appendix E, laws and regulations; Appendix F, Public Comments; Appendix G, Oregon State Scenic Waterway Rules for Land Management; Appendix H, Memorandum of Understanding; Appendix I, Memorandum of Understanding; Appendix J, Glossary of Terms; Appendix K, Oregon County Land Use Administration; Appendix L, Executive Summary Biological Evaluation and Letter of Response.

Method for Plan Preparation

This plan was prepared using three Citizens Ad Hoc Teams and an interdisciplinary team approach (a list of river planning team members and resource specialists is included in Appendix C). The planning process provided opportunities for involvement of State and local governments and interested citizens in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, including all amendments.

MAP OVERVIEW

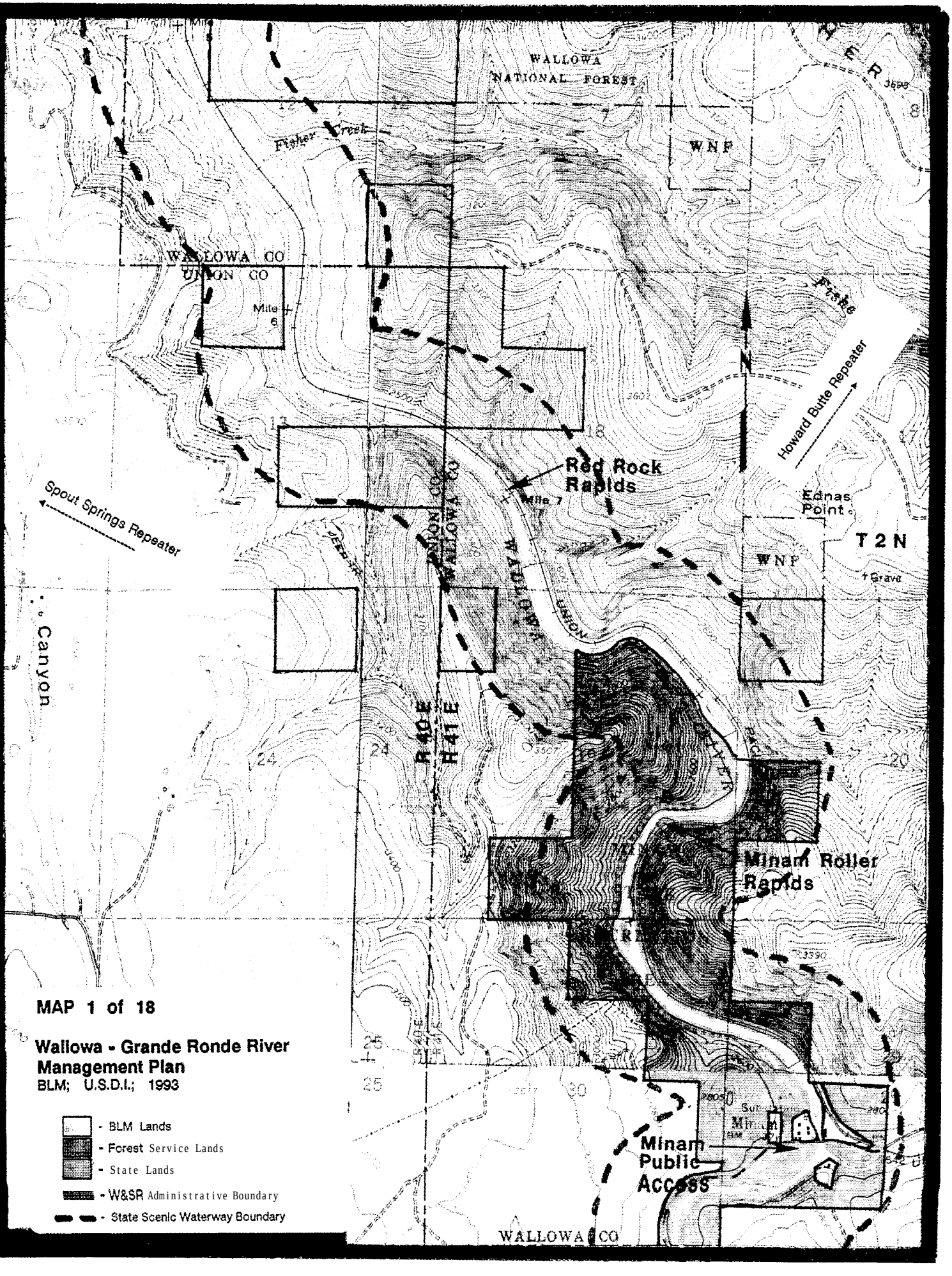
WALLOWA / GRANDE RONDE RIVERS

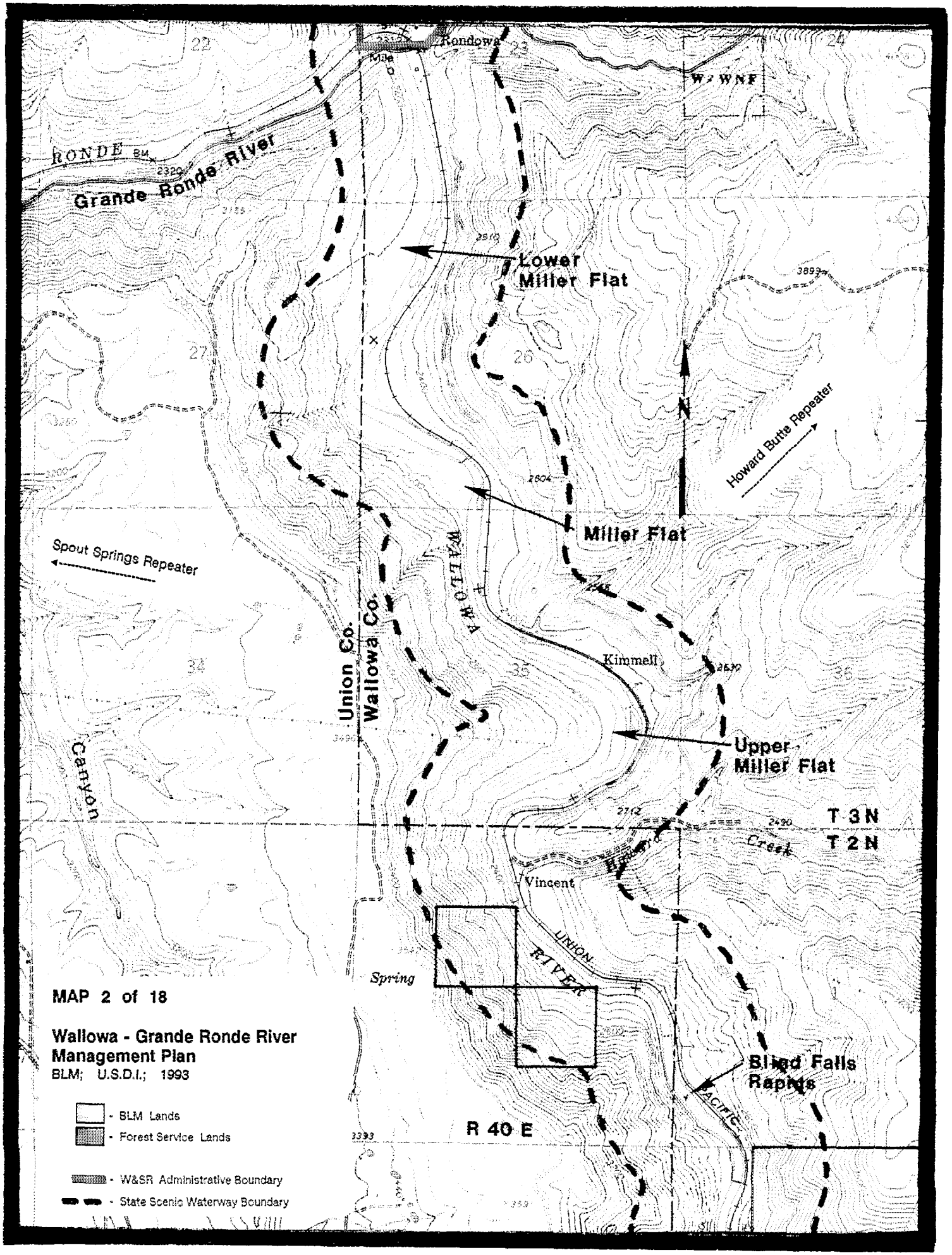


U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau of Land Management

Oregon

1992


WALLOWA NATIONAL FOREST
WNF
Fisher Creek
WALLOWA CO
UNION CO
Mile 6
Howard Butte Repeater
Red Rock Rapids
Mile 7
Spout Springs Repeater
Ednas Point
T 2 N
WNF
Gravel
Canyon
WALLOWA
UNION
R 40 E
R 41 E
Minam Roller Rapids
Minam Public Access
WALLOWA CO
MAP 1 of 18
Wallowa - Grande Ronde River Management Plan
BLM; U.S.D.I.; 1993
- BLM Lands
- Forest Service Lands
- State Lands
- W&SR Administrative Boundary
- State Scenic Waterway Boundary


Grande Ronde River
Lower Miller Flat
Miller Flat
Upper Miller Flat
Howard Butte Repeater
Spout Springs Repeater
Union Co.
Wallowa Co.
WALLOWA
Kimmell
Vincent
Spring
Canyon
Creek
UNION
RIVER
PACIFIC
Bliss Falls Rapids
T 3 N
T 2 N
R 40 E
MAP 2 of 18
Wallowa - Grande Ronde River Management Plan
BLM; U.S.D.I.; 1993
- BLM Lands
- Forest Service Lands
- W&SR Administrative Boundary
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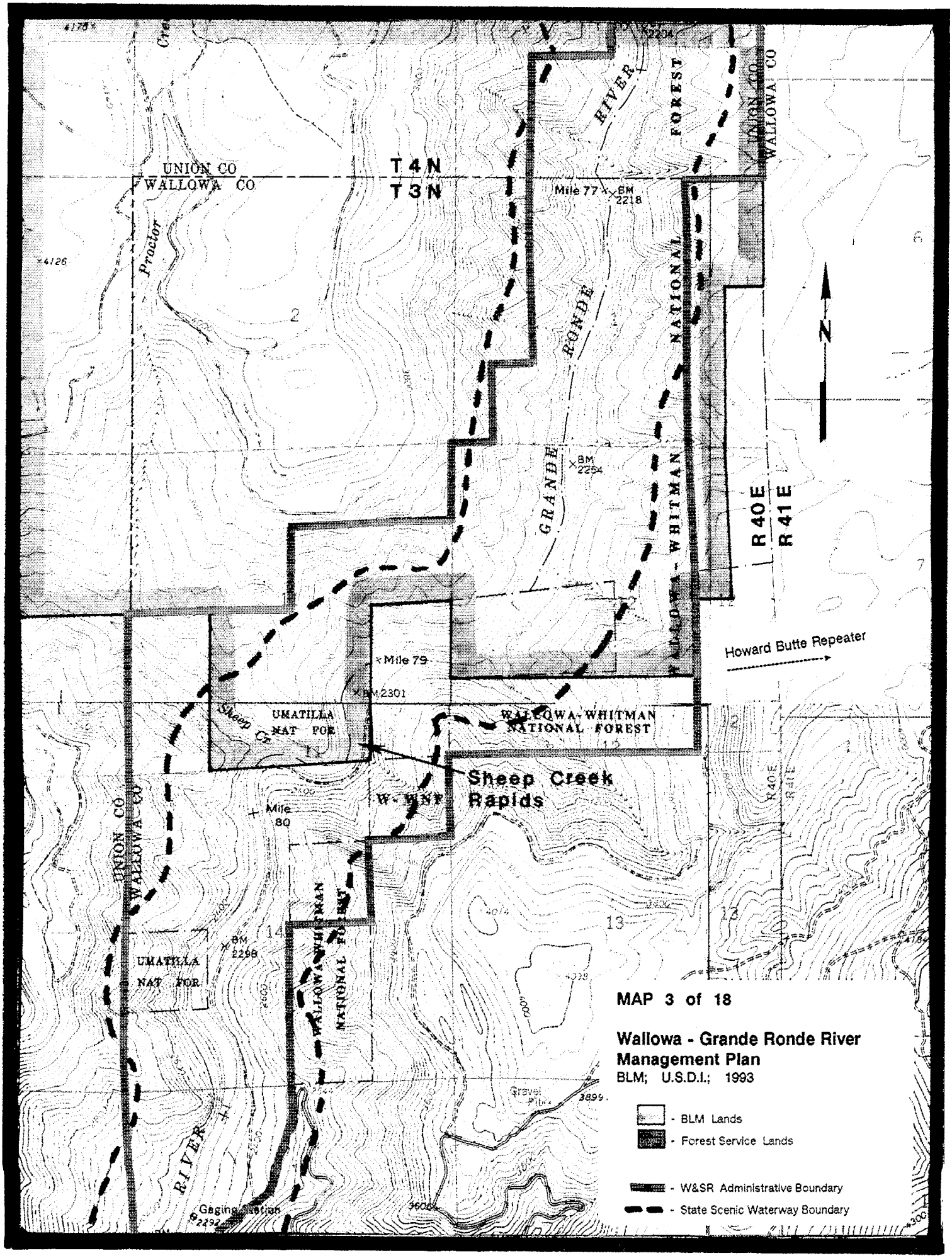
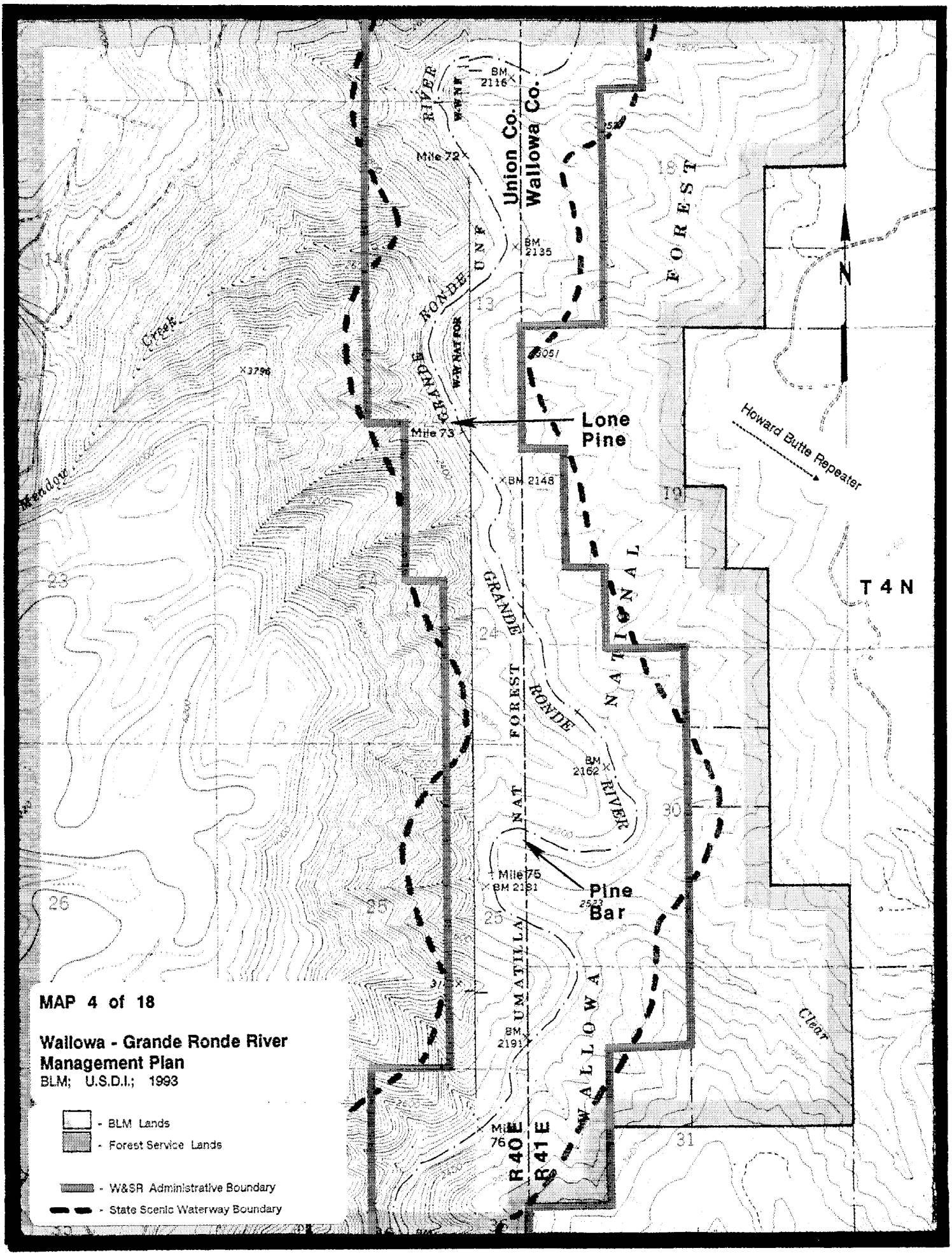

UNION CO
WALLOWA CO
T4N
T3N
Mile 77
BM 2218
Proctor Cr
GRANDE RONDE RIVER
WALLOWA-WHITMAN NATIONAL FOREST
BM 2254
R40E
R41E
N
Howard Butte Repeater
Mile 79
BM 2301
Sheep Cr
UMATILLA NAT FOR
WALLOWA-WHITMAN NATIONAL FOREST
Sheep Creek Rapids
Mile 80
BM 2298
Gaging Station
MAP 3 of 18
Wallowa - Grande Ronde River Management Plan
BLM; U.S.D.I.; 1993
- BLM Lands
- Forest Service Lands
- W&SR Administrative Boundary
- State Scenic Waterway Boundary


Union Co.
Wallowa Co.
Lone Pine
Howard Butte Repeater
Pine Bar
Mile 72
Mile 73
Mile 75
Mile 76
BM 2116
BM 2135
BM 2148
BM 2162
BM 2191
T 4 N
R 40 E
R 41 E
N
MAP 4 of 18
Wallowa - Grande Ronde River Management Plan
BLM; U.S.D.I.; 1993
- BLM Lands
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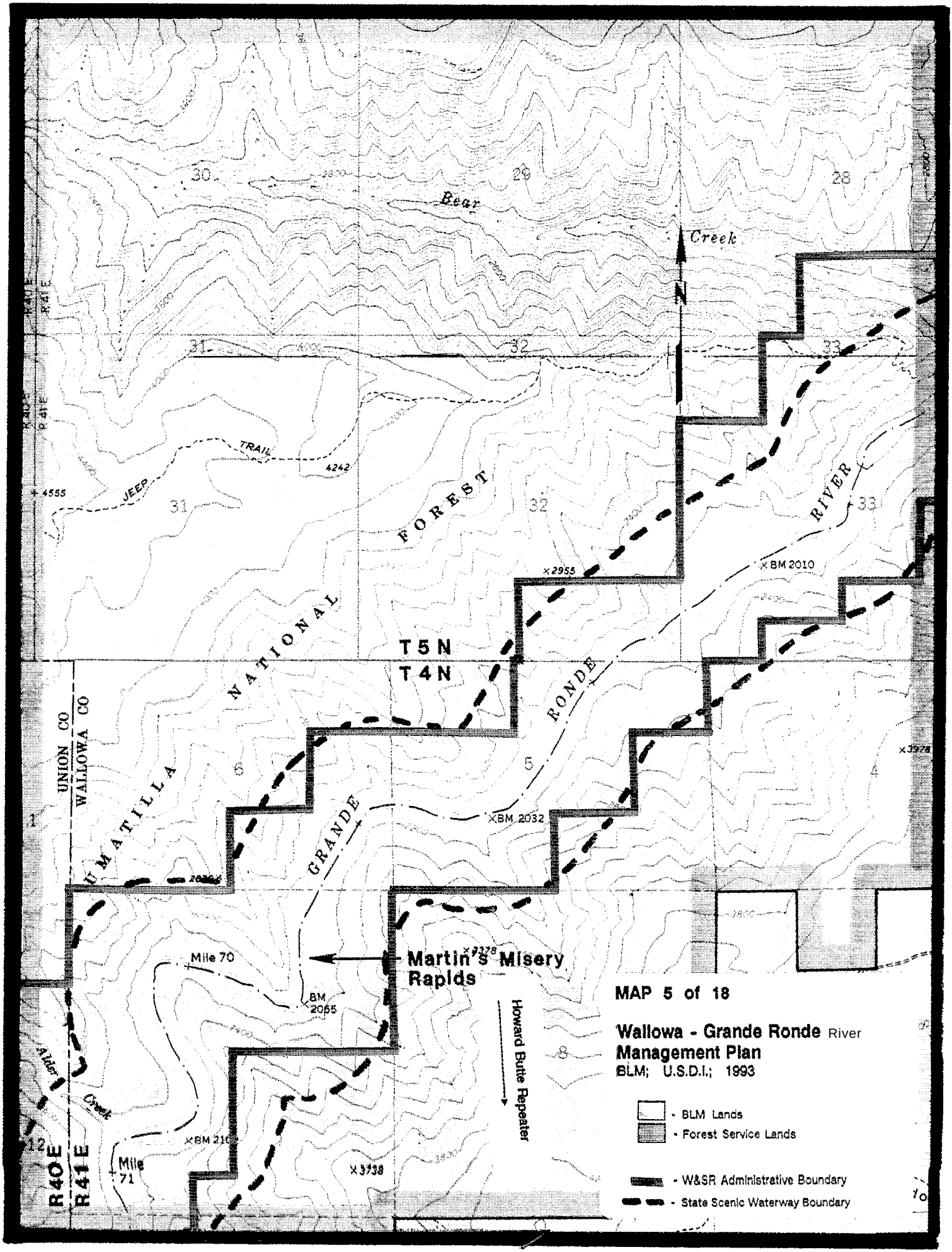
Bear
Creek
N
30
29
28
31
32
33
TRAIL
JEEP
4242
4555
FOREST
NATIONAL
RIVER
RONDE
GRANDE
UMATILLA
UNION CO
WALLOWA CO
T5N
T4N
R40E
R41E
XBM 2010
X2955
XBM 2032
Martin's Misery Rapids
Mile 70
Mile 71
BM 2065
Howard Butte Repeater
Alder Creek
X3738
MAP 5 of 18
Wallowa - Grande Ronde River Management Plan
BLM; U.S.D.I.; 1993
- BLM Lands
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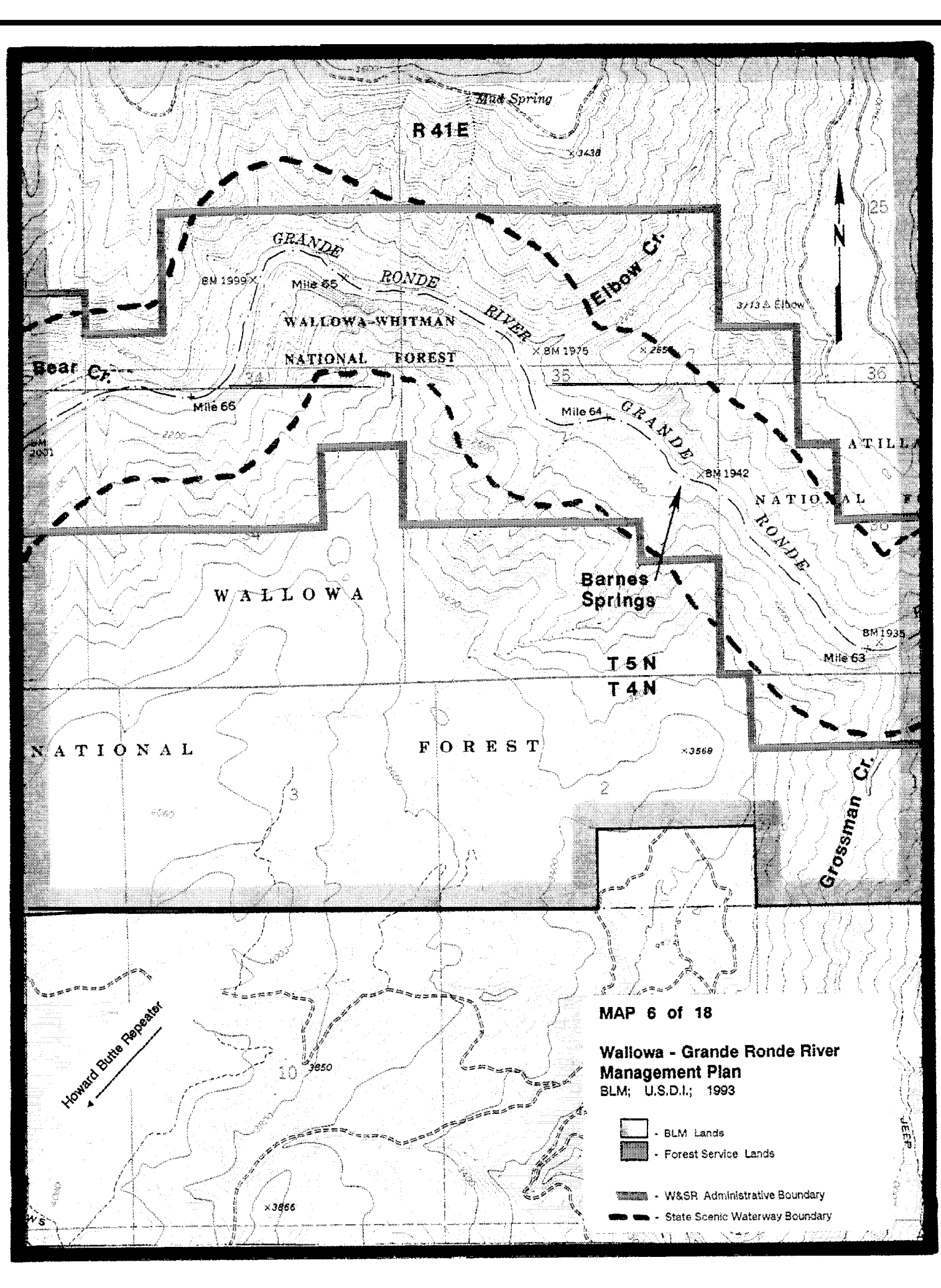
R 41 E
Mud Spring
GRANDE RONDE RIVER
WALLOWA-WHITMAN NATIONAL FOREST
Elbow Cr.
Bear Cr.
Mile 65
Mile 66
Mile 64
BM 1999
BM 1975
BM 1942
BM 1935
Barnes Springs
WALLOWA
NATIONAL FOREST
T 5 N
T 4 N
Grossman Cr.
Howard Butte Repeater
MAP 6 of 18
Wallowa - Grande Ronde River Management Plan
BLM; U.S.D.I.; 1993
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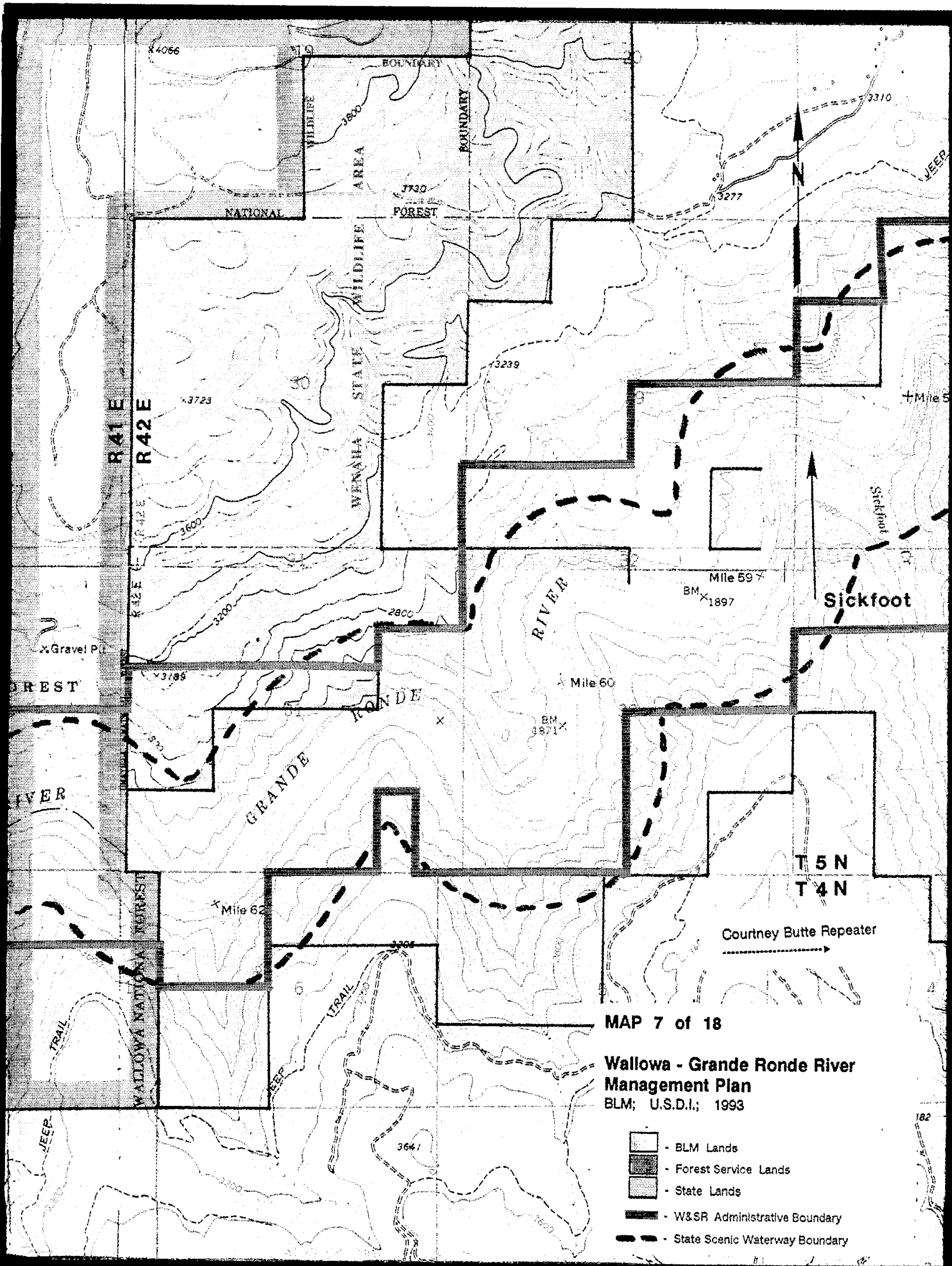

NATIONAL
FOREST
BOUNDARY
WILDLIFE
AREA
BOUNDARY
WENAHA STATE WILDLIFE
R 41 E
R 42 E
JEEP
Sickfoot
Mile 59
BM 1897
Mile 60
BM 1871
RIVER
GRANDE RONDE
Gravel Pit
FOREST
RIVER
Mile 62
WALLOWA NATIONAL FOREST
TRAIL
T 5 N
T 4 N
Courtney Butte Repeater
MAP 7 of 18
Wallowa - Grande Ronde River Management Plan
BLM; U.S.D.I.; 1993
- BLM Lands
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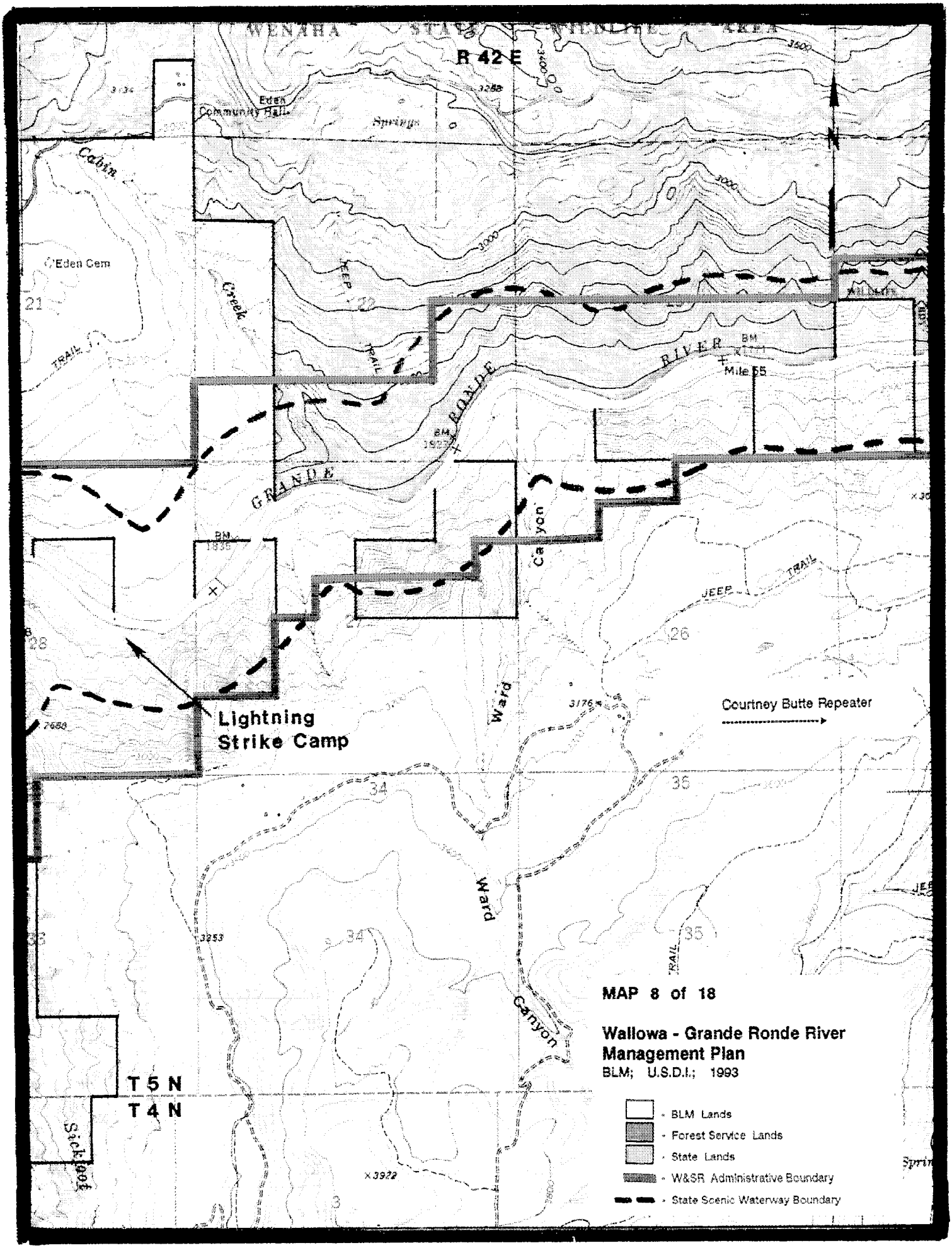
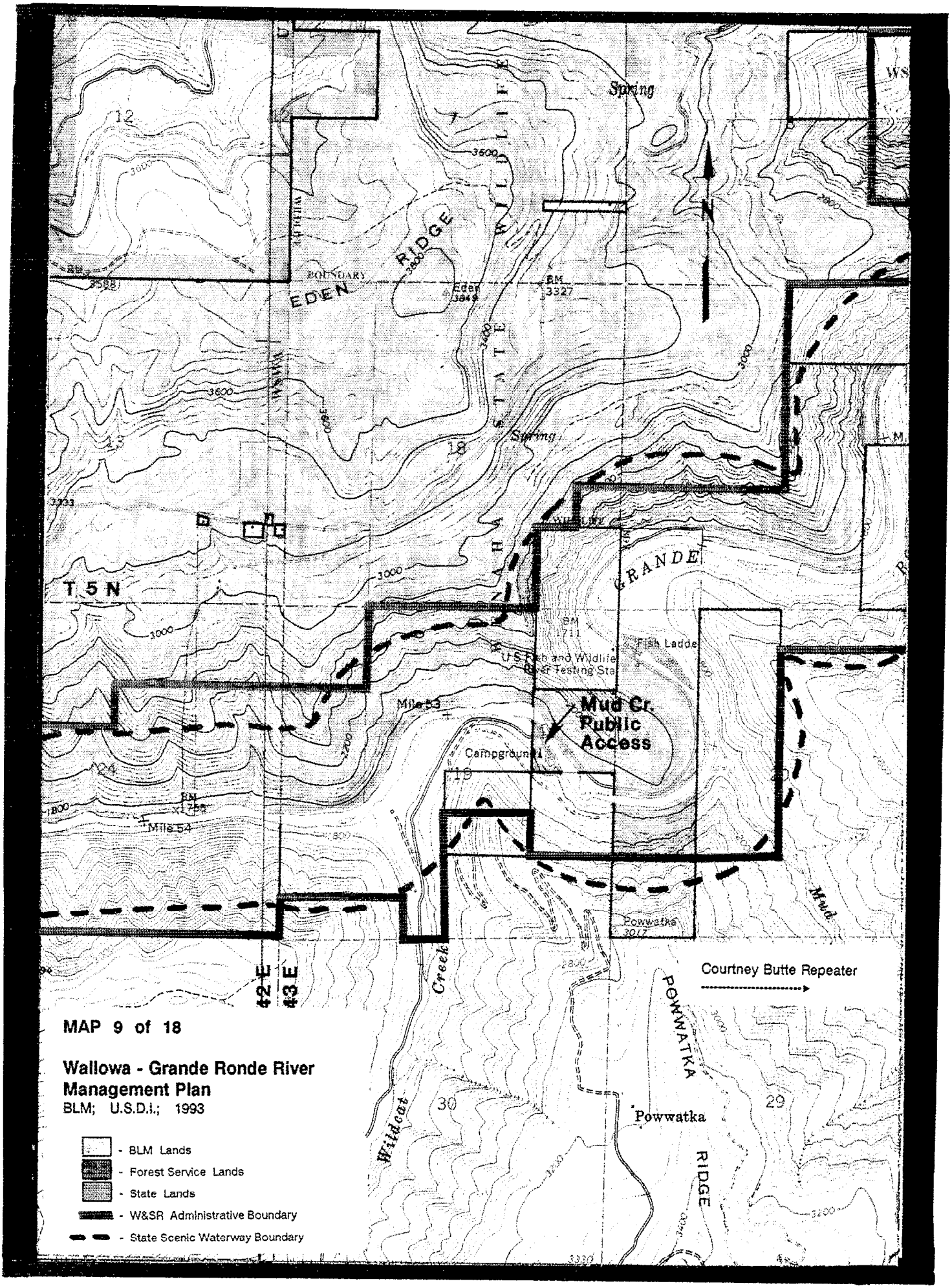

R 42 E
Eden Community Hall
Springs
Cabin
Eden Cem
Creek
TRAIL
JEEP
RIVER
Mile 55
GRANDE
RONDE
Canyon
Lightning Strike Camp
Courtney Butte Repeater
Ward
Draw
Canyon
T 5 N
T 4 N
Sickleleaf
MAP 8 of 18
Wallowa - Grande Ronde River Management Plan
BLM; U.S.D.I.; 1993
BLM Lands
Forest Service Lands
State Lands
W&SR Administrative Boundary
State Scenic Waterway Boundary


Spring
EDEN RIDGE WILDLIFE
EDEN
Eden
3849
BM
3327
STATE
Spring
GRANDE
T 5 N
BM
711
Fish Ladde
U.S. Fish and Wildlife
River Testing Sta
Mile 53
Mud Cr.
Public
Access
Campground
BM
755
Mile 54
Powwatka
3017
Mud
Creek
42 E
43 E
Courtney Butte Repeater
POWWATKA
RIDGE
Powwatka
Wildcat
MAP 9 of 18
Wallowa - Grande Ronde River
Management Plan
BLM; U.S.D.I.; 1993
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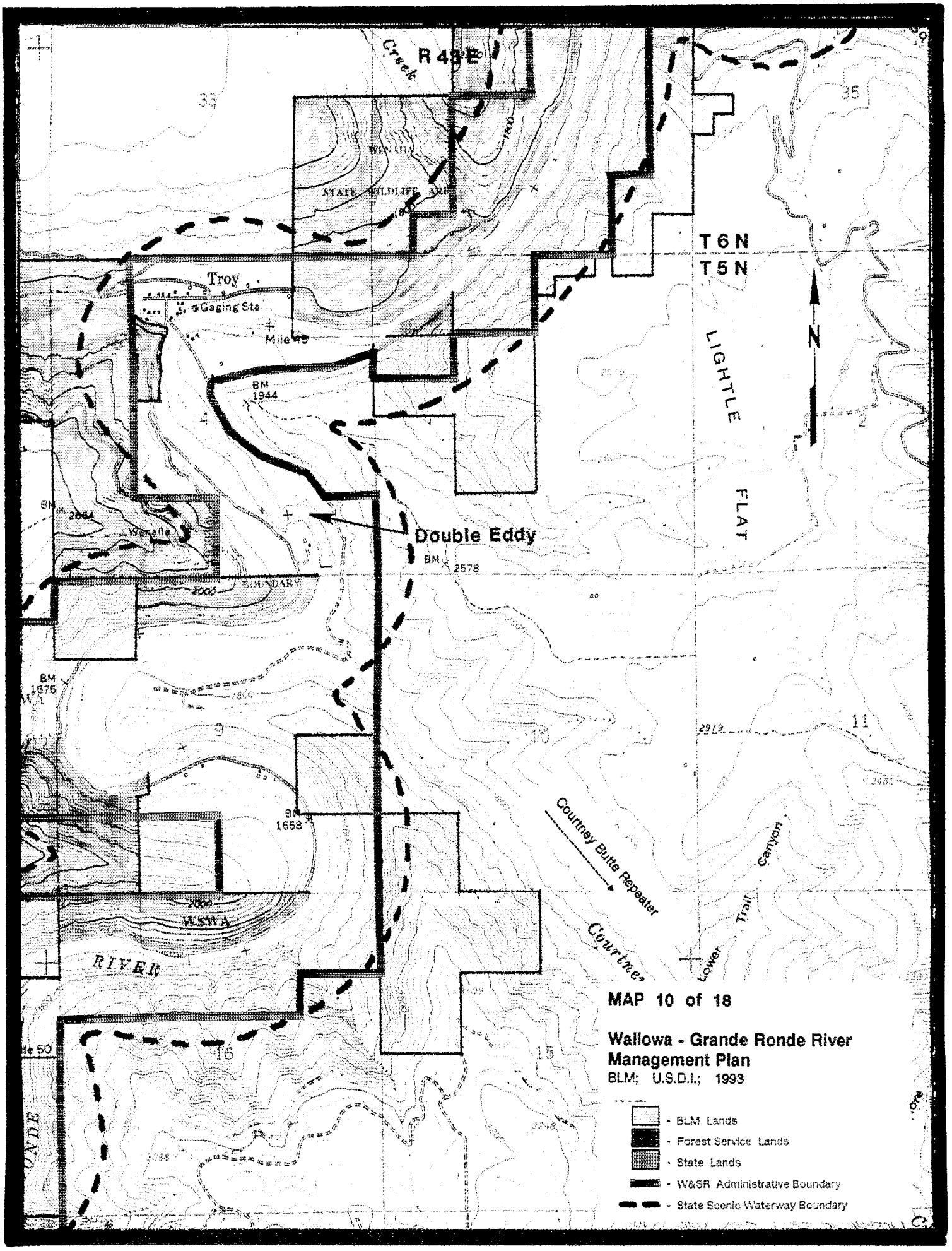
R 43 E
T6N
T5N
LIGHTLE FLAT
N
Troy
Gaging Sta
Mile 49
BM 1944
Double Eddy
BM 2578
BM 2664
Wenaha
BOUNDARY
BM 1675
BM 1658
2000
2919
Courtney Butte Repeater
Courtney
Lower Trail Canyon
WSWA
RIVER
MAP 10 of 18
Wallowa - Grande Ronde River Management Plan
BLM; U.S.D.I.; 1993
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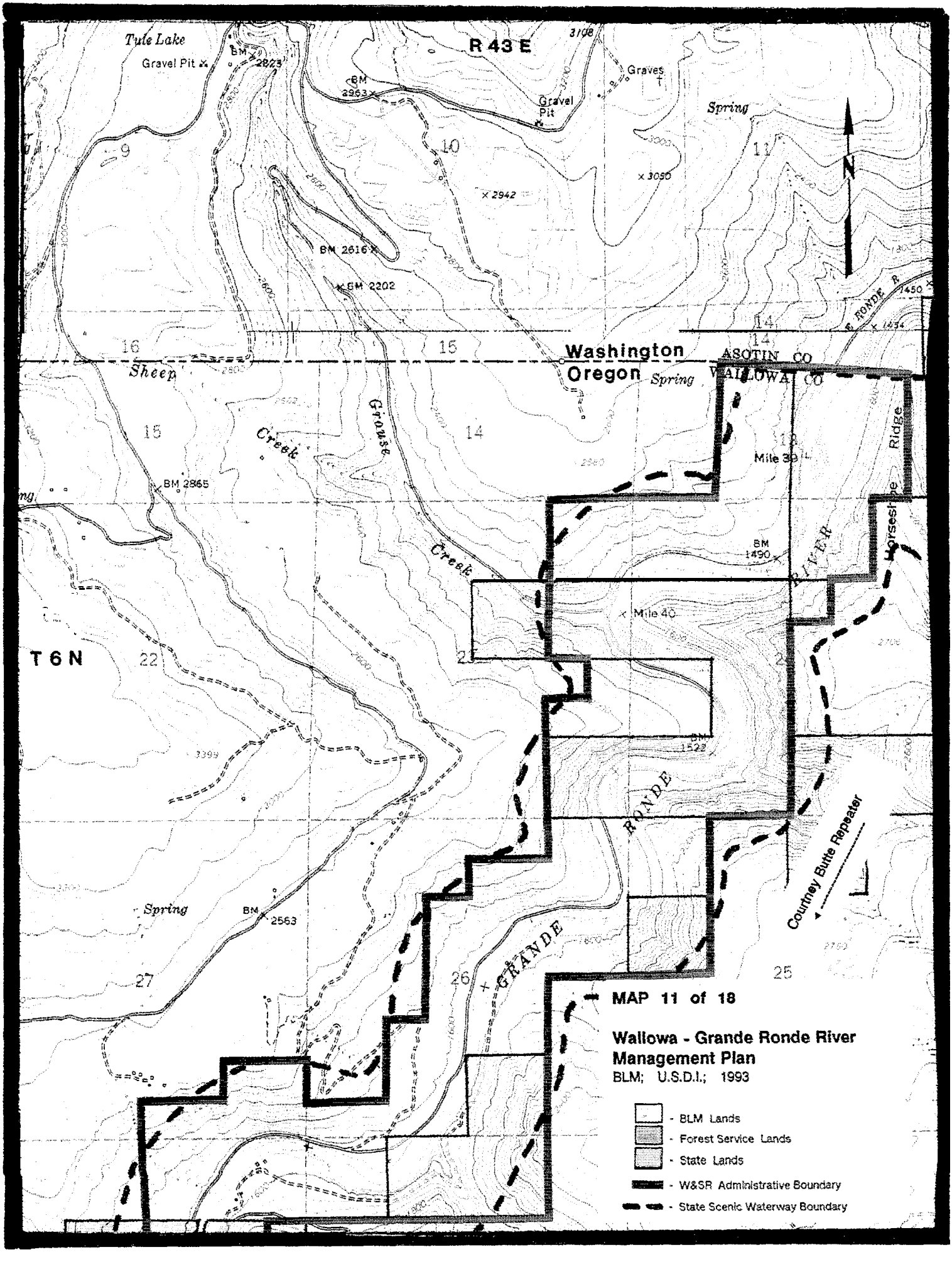
Tule Lake
Gravel Pit
BM 2823
R 43 E
BM 2953
Gravel Pit
Graves
Spring
x 3050
x 2942
BM 2616
BM 2202
N
FONDE R
x 1434
16
15
14
Washington
Oregon
ASOTIN CO
WALLOWA CO
Sheep
Spring
Grouse Creek
Creek
BM 2865
Mile 39
Ridge
BM 1490
RIVER
Horsesh
Mile 40
T 6 N
22
BM 1523
RONDE
Courtney Butte Repeater
Spring
BM 2563
27
26
GRANDE
25
MAP 11 of 18
Wallowa - Grande Ronde River Management Plan
BLM; U.S.D.I.; 1993
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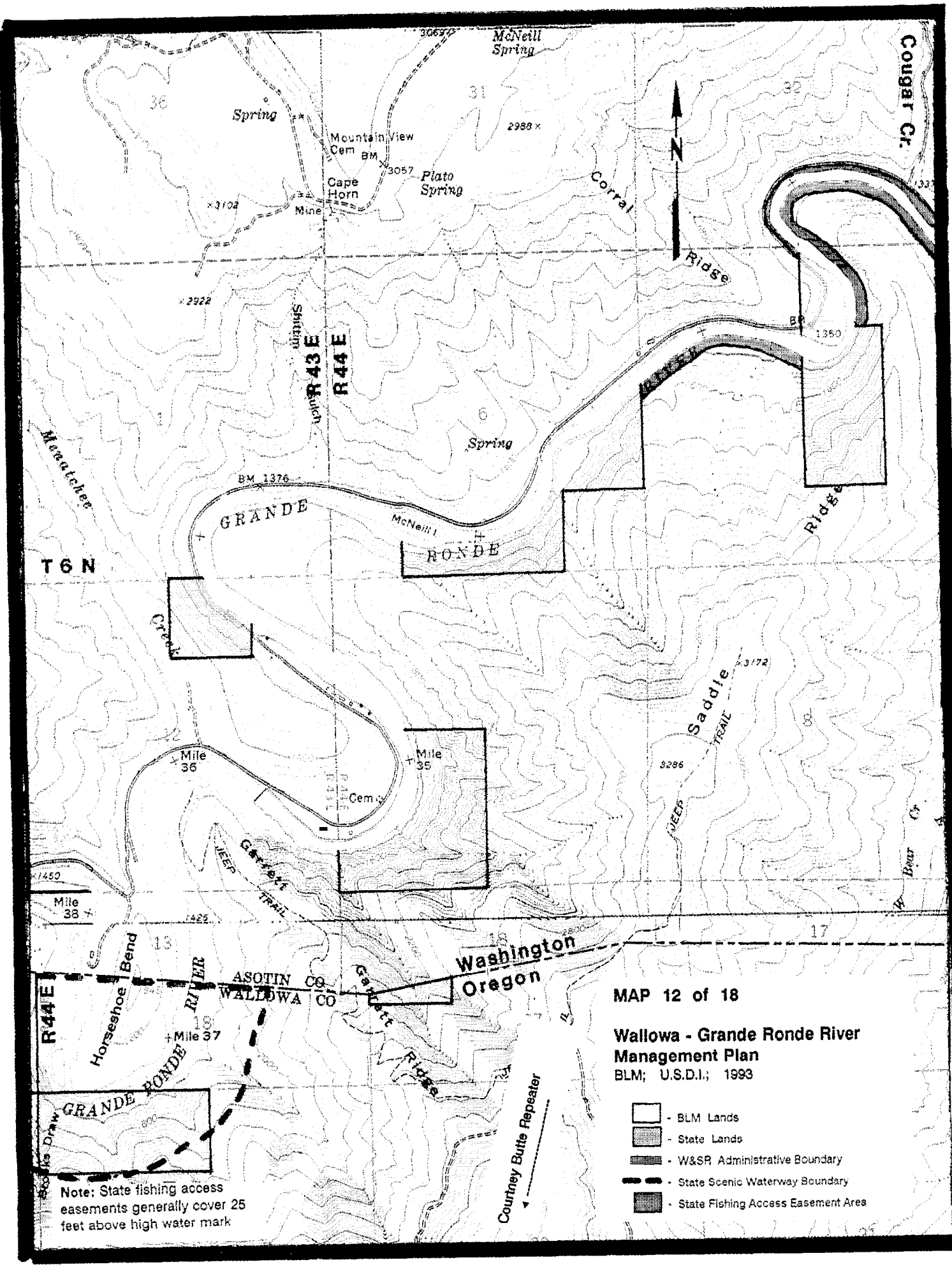
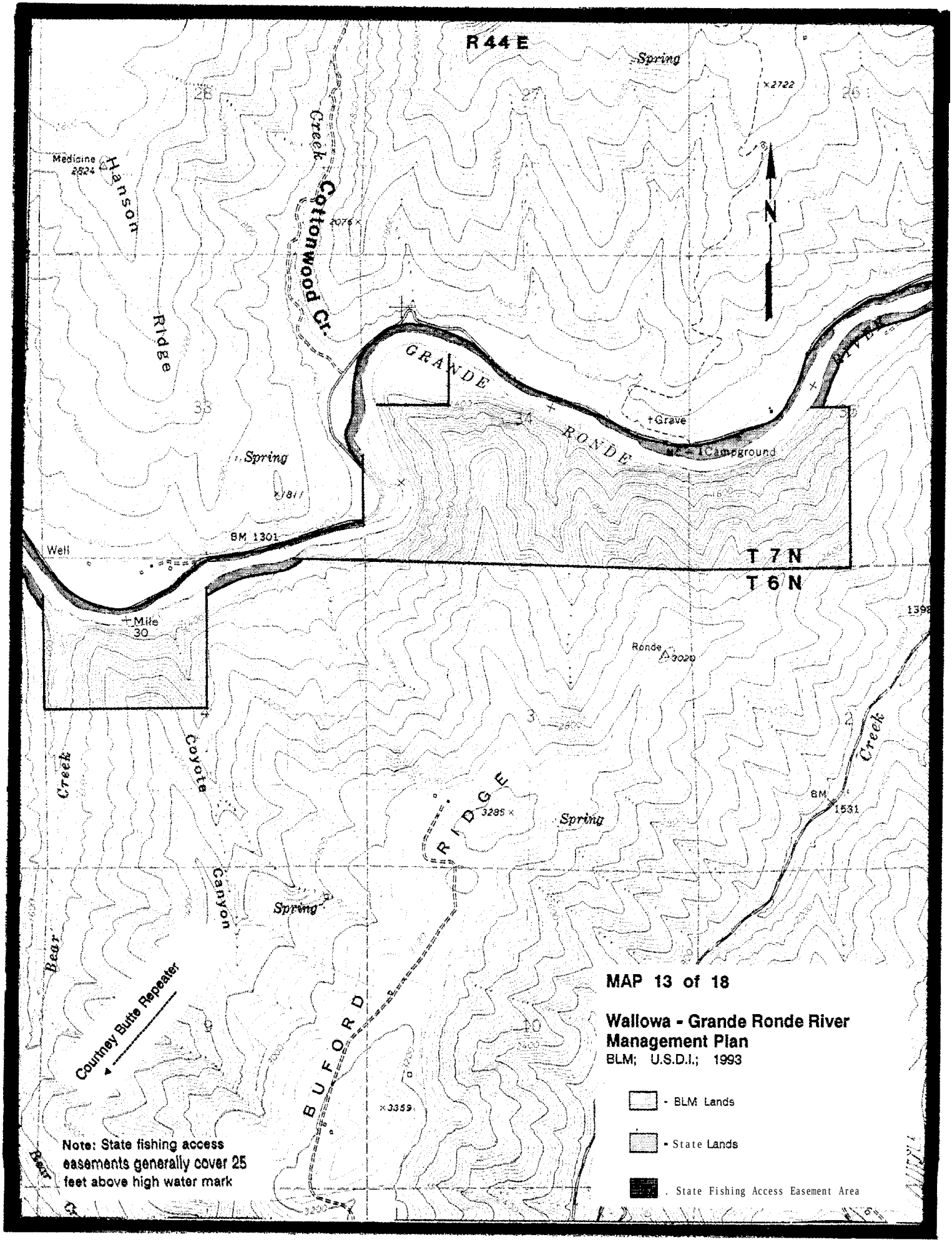
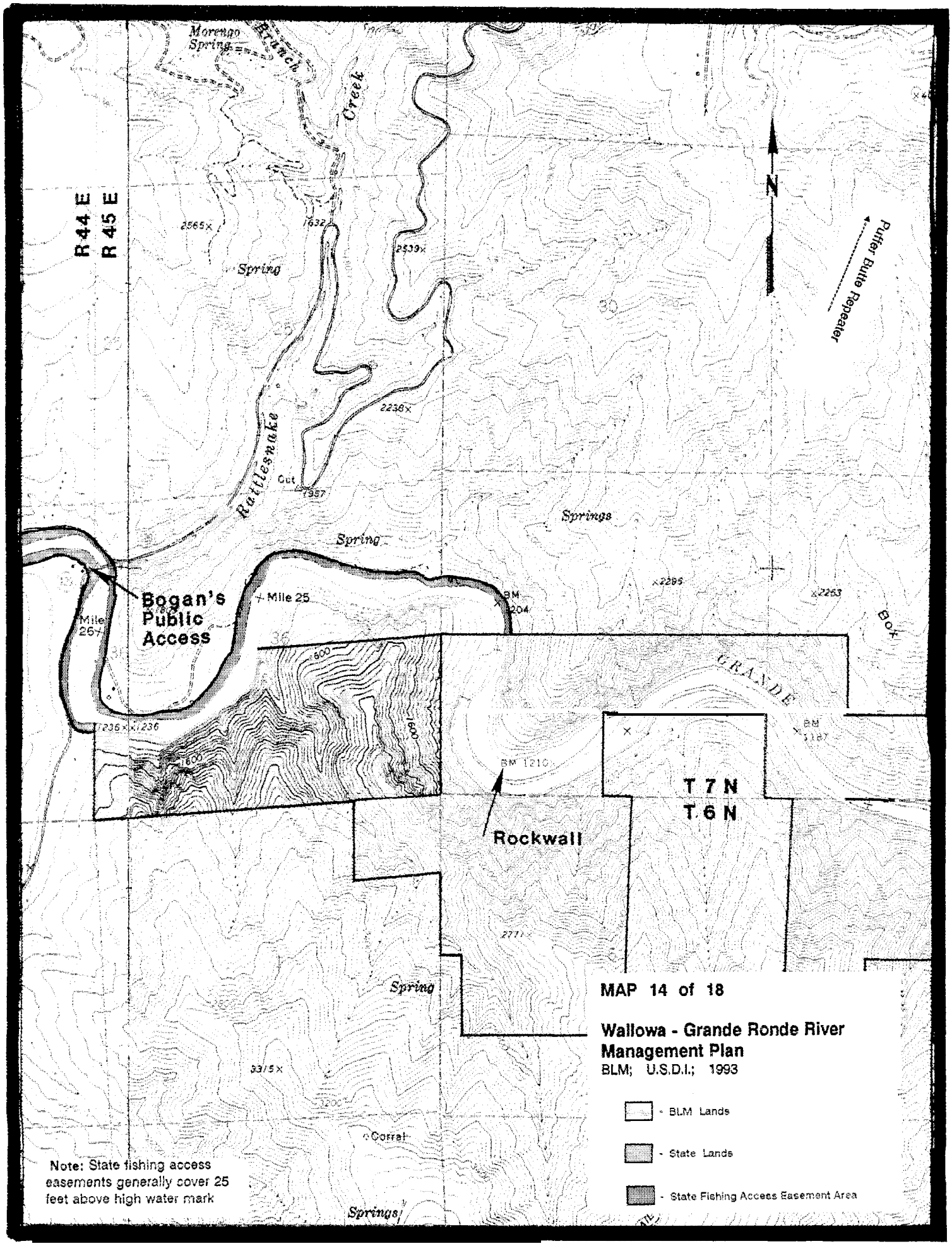
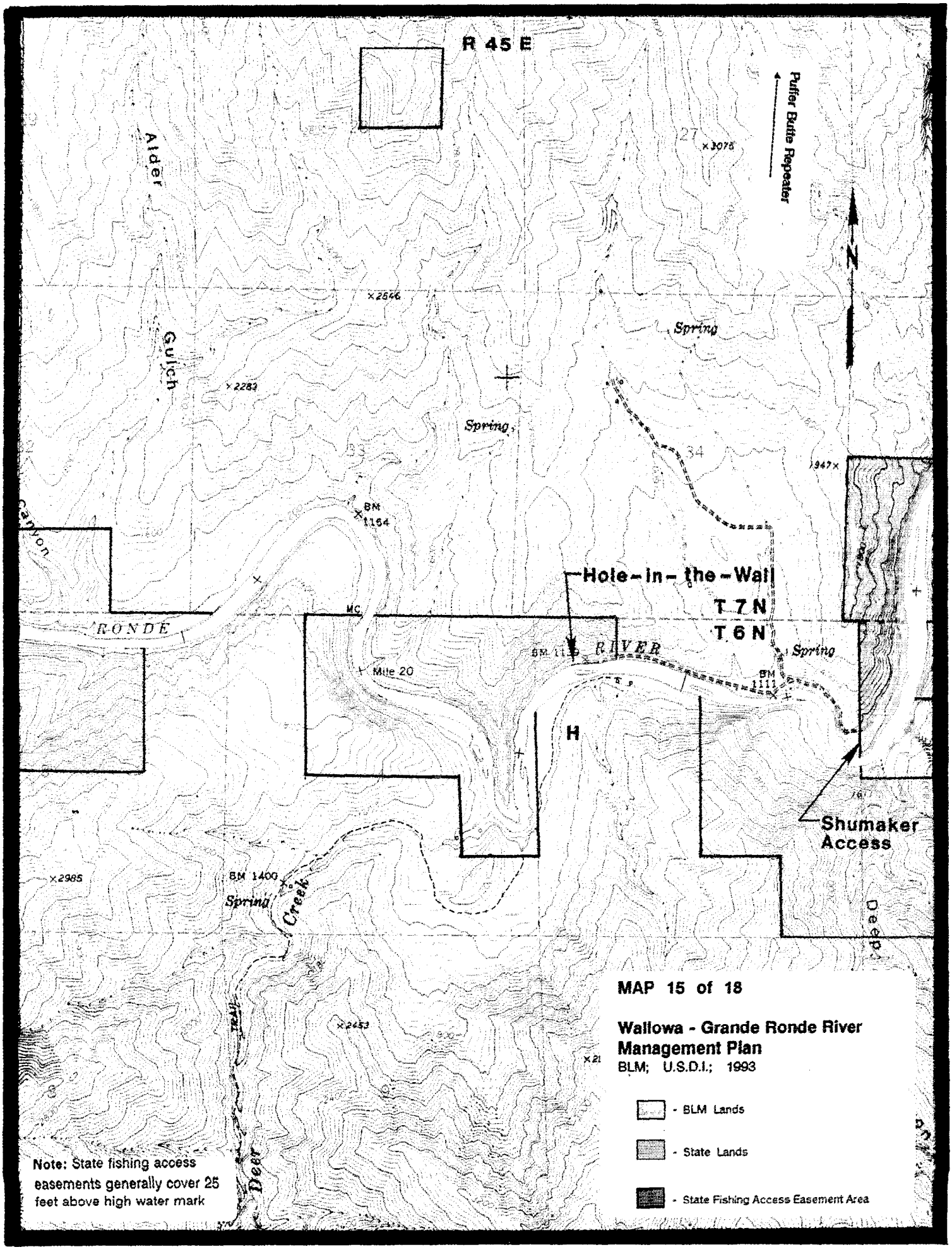
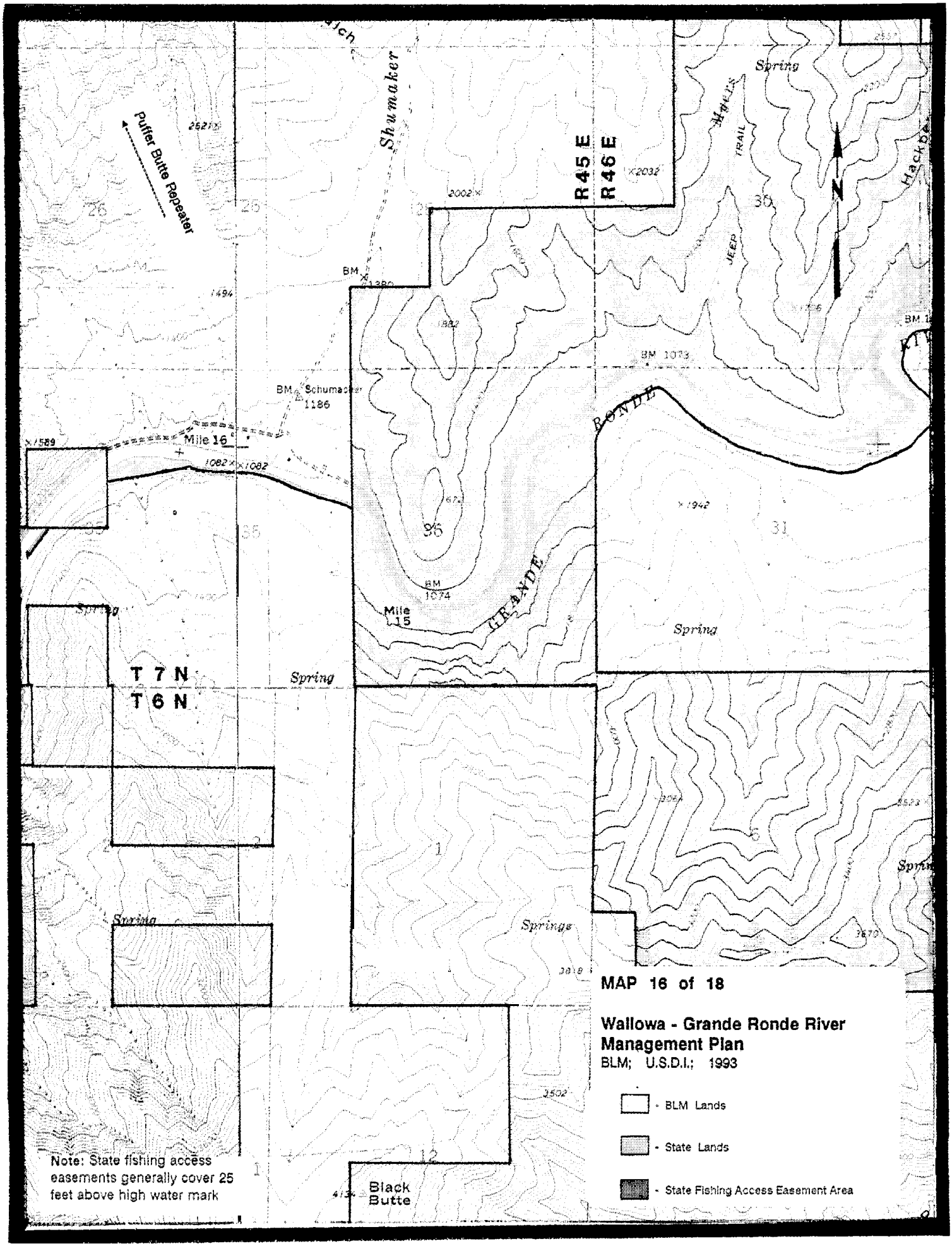
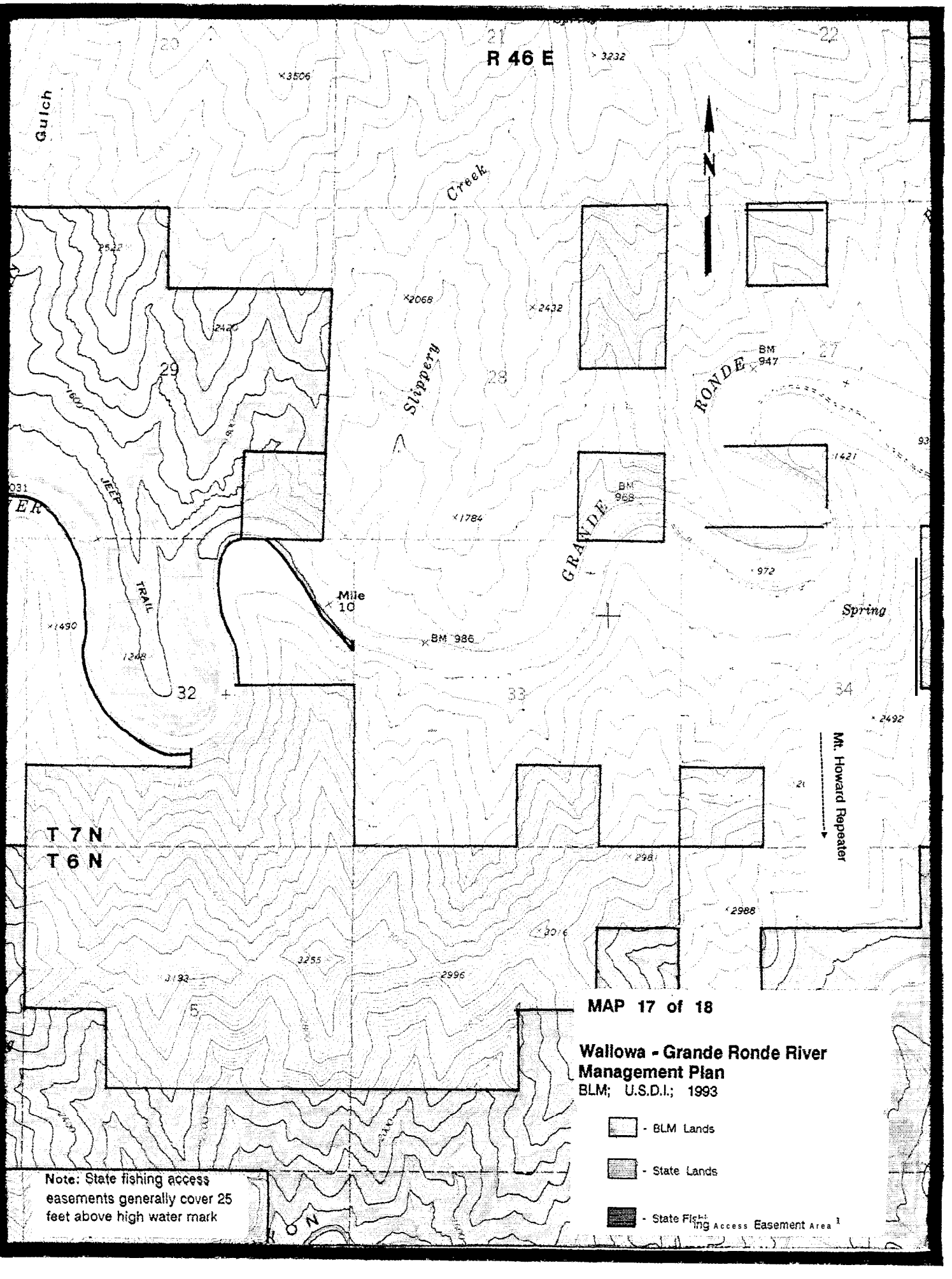

McNeill Spring
Cougar Cr.
Spring
Mountain View Cem
BM
Cape Horn Mine
Plato Spring
Corral Ridge
N
R43E
R44E
Smith
Meacham
Spring
BM 1376
GRANDE RONDE
McNeill
Ridge
T6N
Creek
Saddle
TRAIL
JEEP
Mile 36
Mile 35
Cem
Garrett
Mile 38
Bear Cr.
Washington
Oregon
ASOTIN CO
WALLOWA CO
Horseshoe Bend
RIVER
Mile 37
GRANDE RONDE
Courtney Butte Repeater
Note: State fishing access easements generally cover 25 feet above high water mark
MAP 12 of 18
Wallowa - Grande Ronde River Management Plan
BLM; U.S.D.I.; 1993
- BLM Lands
- State Lands
- W&SR Administrative Boundary
- State Scenic Waterway Boundary
- State Fishing Access Easement Area

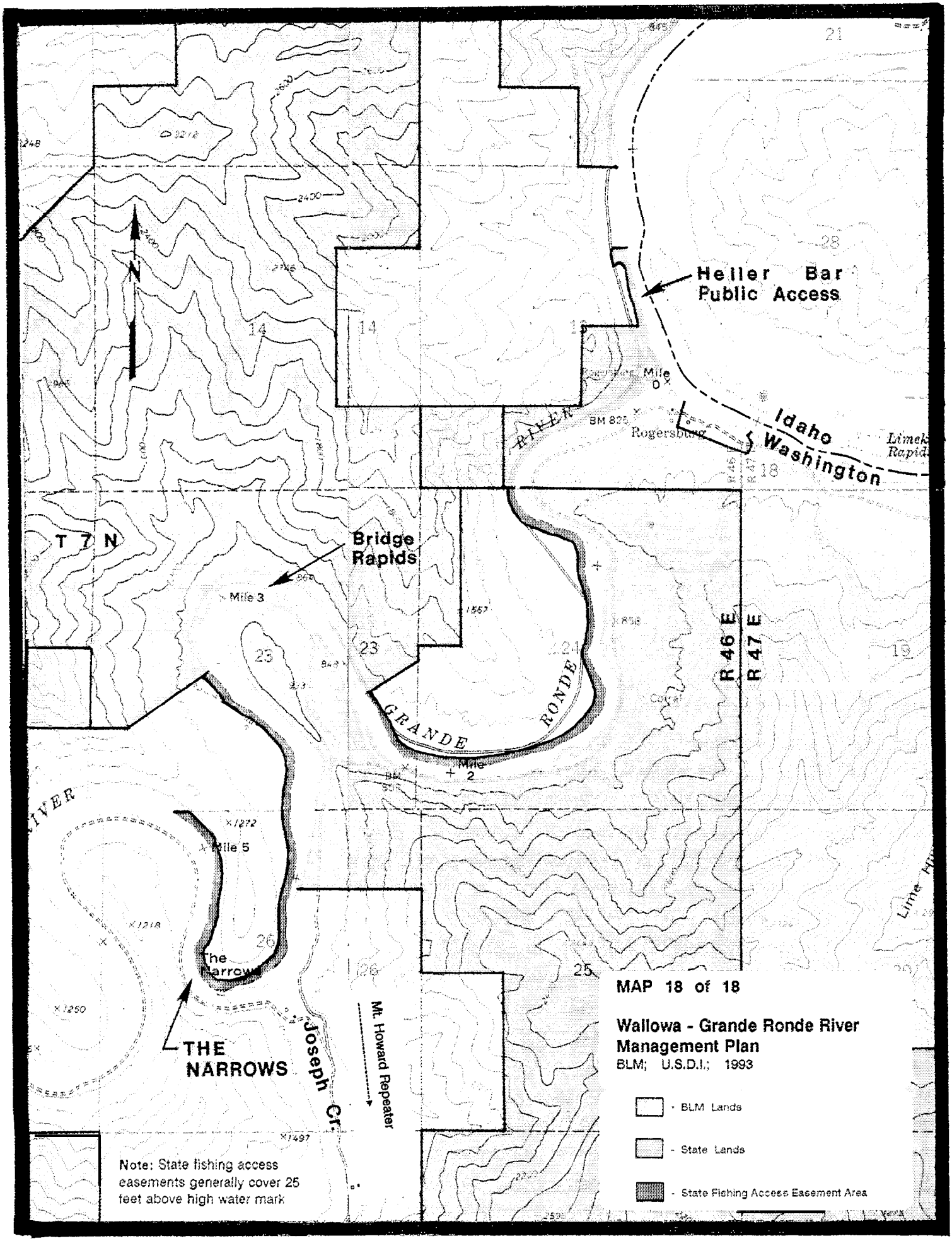

R44E
Spring
×2722
Medicine
2824
Hanson
Ridge
Cottonwood Cr.
2076 ×
N
GRANDE RONDE
+Grave
Campground
Spring
×811
BM 1301
Well
T 7 N
T 6 N
+Mile
30
Ronde
3020
Coyote
Creek
Canyon
Spring
Bear
Creek
RIDGE
3285 ×
Spring
BM
1531
Courtney Butte Repeater
BUFORD
×3359
Bear
Creek
MAP 13 of 18
Wallowa - Grande Ronde River
Management Plan
BLM; U.S.D.I.; 1993
- BLM Lands
- State Lands
. State Fishing Access Easement Area
Note: State fishing access
easements generally cover 25
feet above high water mark


Moreno Spring
Branch
Creek
R44E
R45E
Spring
Rattlesnake
Cut
Springs
Spring
Bogan's Public Access
Mile 25
Mile 26
BM 204
BM 1210
BM 3187
GRANDE
BOX
T 7 N
T 6 N
Rockwall
Spring
Springs
Corral
N
Puffer Butte Repeater
MAP 14 of 18
Wallowa - Grande Ronde River Management Plan
BLM; U.S.D.I.; 1993
- BLM Lands
- State Lands
- State Fishing Access Easement Area
Note: State fishing access easements generally cover 25 feet above high water mark


R 45 E
Puffer Butte Repeater
N
Alder Gulch
Spring
Spring
Canyon
RONDE
BM 1164
Hole-in-the-Wall
T 7 N
T 6 N
RIVER
Spring
Mile 20
H
Shumaker Access
BM 1400
Spring
Creek
Deer
Deep
MAP 15 of 18
Wallowa - Grande Ronde River Management Plan
BLM; U.S.D.I.; 1993
- BLM Lands
- State Lands
- State Fishing Access Easement Area
Note: State fishing access easements generally cover 25 feet above high water mark


R45 E
R46 E
T 7 N
T 6 N
Puffer Butte Repeater
Shumaker
Mile 16
Mile 15
BM Schumacher 1186
BM 1074
BM 1073
GRANDE RONDE
Spring
Springs
Black Butte
Note: State fishing access easements generally cover 25 feet above high water mark
MAP 16 of 18
Wallowa - Grande Ronde River Management Plan
BLM; U.S.D.I.; 1993
- BLM Lands
- State Lands
- State Fishing Access Easement Area


R 46 E
Gulch
Slippery Creek
GRANDE RONDE
Mile 10
JEEP TRAIL
Spring
BM 986
BM 947
BM 968
Mt. Howard Repeater
T 7 N
T 6 N
MAP 17 of 18
Wallowa - Grande Ronde River Management Plan
BLM; U.S.D.I.; 1993
- BLM Lands
- State Lands
- State Fishing Access Easement Area
Note: State fishing access easements generally cover 25 feet above high water mark


Heiler Bar
Public Access
Idaho
Washington
Bridge
Rapids
T 7 N
R 46 E
R 47 E
GRANDE RONDE
RIVER
THE
NARROWS
Joseph Cr.
Mt. Howard Repeater
Rogersburg
Mile 0
Mile 2
Mile 3
Mile 5
MAP 18 of 18
Wallowa - Grande Ronde River
Management Plan
BLM; U.S.D.I.; 1993
- BLM Lands
- State Lands
- State Fishing Access Easement Area
Note: State fishing access easements generally cover 25 feet above high water mark

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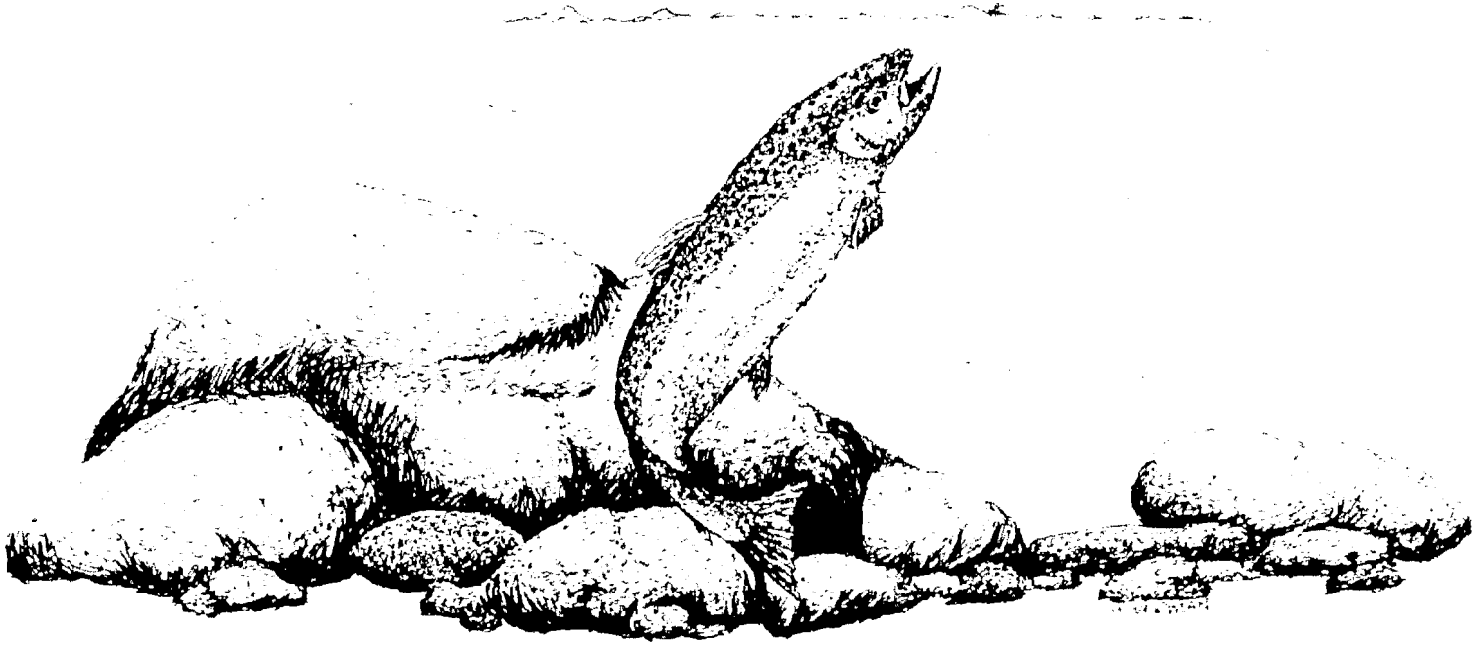
CHAPTER 1 -
INTRODUCTION



Background Information

The Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers from Minam, Oregon to Heller Bar, Washington include approximately 10 miles of the Wallowa River from Minam, Oregon to Rondowa, Oregon (confluence of the Wallowa and Grande Ronde Rivers), and 80 miles of the Grande Ronde from Rondowa to Heller Bar, Washington. Due to topography, access and river character, these river segments are managed as one river, (Refer to Map Overview).

Through the development of the Baker Resource Management Plan (RMP) 1989, the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers were designated as a Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA) and components of the Grande Ronde Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC). The RMP directed the Baker Resource Area Recreation Program to develop a management plan for the 90 mile river corridor. The Land and Resource Management Plans for the Umatilla and Wallowa-Whitman National Forests recognize the special values of the river segments traversing the National Forest system lands. Management direction is provided which protects the Outstandingly Remarkable Values. Within the Forest Plans, the area surrounding the river corridor is allocated to a Scenic Area, which recognizes the values of the entire river canyon.

In 1968, Congress enacted the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, and established a system for preserving outstanding free-flowing rivers. The Omnibus Oregon Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1988 amended the 1968 Act and designated the Wallowa River from Minam to Rondowa as a Study River and the Grande Ronde River from Rondowa to Oregon/Washington stateline as a component of the National System, (Table 1). All involved management agencies have agreed to develop one management plan for the 90 mile river corridor with the Bureau of Land Management as the lead planning agency.

The plan includes a Study River segment, Designated River segment, and the Washington Segment. A portion of the Wallowa and Grande Ronde Rivers was also included in the Oregon Scenic Waterways program via 1988 Ballot Measure #7 (Oregon Rivers Initiative). The Oregon State Scenic Waterways

Table 1 - River Classifications

1. Wallowa River (Minam to Rondowa, OR - 10 miles)
   - Federal Study River - The Omnibus Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1988.
   - Oregon State Scenic Waterway - Oregon Rivers Initiative, 1988 Ballot Measure #7.

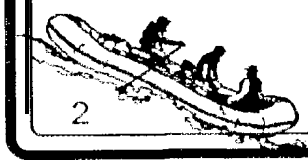
2. Grande Ronde River (Rondowa to Stateline - 43.8 miles)

   - Federal Designated River - The Omnibus Oregon Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1988.
     Recreational: The 1.5 miles from Rondowa to the Umatilla Forest Boundary.
     Wild: The 26.4 miles from the Umatilla Forest Boundary to Wildcat Creek.
     Recreational: The 15.9 miles from Wildcat Creek to the Oregon/Washington border.
   - Oregon State Scenic Waterway - Oregon Rivers Initiative, 1988 Ballot Measure #7.

3. Grande Ronde River (Stateline to Heller Bar, WA)
   - Washington State (Asotin County) Shoreline Program.

4. Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers (Minam to Heller Bar, WA)
   - Designated Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) and Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA) by the Bureau of Land Management.
   - Designated Special Scenic Area by Forest Service.

5. Wenaha River
   -The lower segment of the Wenaha Wild and Scenic River overlaps with the Grande Ronde corridor. Direction in the Wallowa/Grande Ronde River Plan applies to the recreation section of the Wenaha River.



Program, established in 1970 by the State of Oregon, is administered through the State Parks and Recreation Department and is a component of this plan through the Department's Administrative Rules process.

The Grande Ronde River in Washington is included in the Washington State (Asotin County) Shoreline Program and carries additional management guidelines as identified in Chapter 5 of this plan.

A short segment of the Wenaha National Wild and Scenic River overlaps designation with the Grande Ronde at the town of Troy, Oregon. That sector of the Wenaha has the same issues and concerns common to the Grande Ronde corridor. Therefore, this plan will provide direction for management of the 0.15 mile recreation segment of the Wenaha. The result of this planning effort is one management plan for the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers system that provides the user, private landowners, and managing agencies a single source document that establishes management direction.

Purpose and Need

Congress has directed the Department of Interior through the Bureau of Land Management to prepare a coordinated Wild and Scenic River Management Plan for the designated sections of the Grande Ronde River. In addition, the Bureau of Land Management is also preparing a River Management Plan for the Wallowa River which is proposed for designations by the Forest Service as a part of the overall planning effort. Because of the proximity of the two rivers, common public interests and issues, and timing of the planning efforts, it was appropriate to combine the analysis into a joint plan covering both rivers.

The purpose of the analysis and planning is to establish the desired future conditions and management directions for each of the rivers. As part of development of the plan, identification of appropriate management boundaries was needed for the rivers. The goal was to provide for protection and enhancement of the identified Outstandingly Remarkable Values including the scenic, recreational, fisheries, and wildlife values and others of high quality. Another goal was to provide for public and landowner interest in the management of the river, as far as possible, within the scope of the laws and regulations concerning Wild and Scenic rivers, Oregon State Scenic Waterways, and Asotin County Shoreline. The overall intent of the rivers management plan is to guide the specific development or activities within the river corridors.

Proposed Action

The proposed action is the development of a comprehensive river management plan for the Grande Ronde River as a result of Congressional designation via Omnibus Oregon Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1988 and for the Wallowa Wild and Scenic Study river expected to be designated through Legislative Environmental Impact Statement (LEIS) proposals developed by the Forest Service (Jan. 1993). This action also includes development of this plan to meet the requirements of the Oregon State Scenic Waterway program and the Washington State, Asotin County Shoreline Program.

Related Federal, Tribal, State and Local Planning and Management Responsibilities

Although the Omnibus Oregon Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1988 assigned a Special river planning and management role to a unique blend of Federal, Tribal, State and local entities and citizen users, it was not the first cooperative planning and resource management effort in the Wallowa/ Grande Ronde River area. The same mix of landownership and authorities has been applied to a wide variety of resources and joint programs for many years. County plans have been developed under State guidelines in close consultation and coordination with Federal agencies and the public since the late 1970's. Federal plans, such as the BLM's Vale District Baker Resource Management Plan, have been developed with substantial interagency review. Special emphasis programs, such as wildfire control, historic preservation, noxious weed control and wildlife habitat enhancement are routinely coordinated among agencies, landowners and other affected publics. It is expected that most of these resource management relationships will remain unchanged as a result of this river management plan. The responsibility for implementation of management actions within the framework of this plan, identified in Chapter 3, will be taken by the following agencies. Each agency will use authorities for lands and/or land uses under their individual jurisdictions.

Federal Planning and Management Responsibilities

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

In 1989, the Bureau of Land Management completed the Baker Resource Management Plan, which was a comprehensive land use or Resource Management Plan (RMP) for all BLM lands and minerals in Wallowa and Union counties in Oregon and Asotin county in Washington. The total BLM surface acreage, within the Resource Area, at the time of RMP completion was over 425,000 acres, including all BLM lands in the Wallowa/Grande Ronde River Planning Area. BLM manages almost 29 percent of the lands within the river corridor. The Resource Management Plan included an environmental impact statement which documented the environmental consequences of the plan as well as numerous intergovernmental relationships. The plan established land use goals and objectives for BLM administered lands, minerals, soils and watershed, rangeland, forest and woodlands, fish and wildlife habitat, recreation, cultural and archaeological resources. It incorporated management direction for roads and access, utility and transportation corridors, fire control and noxious weed control. Copies of the approved Baker Resource Management Plan are available from the Bureau's Baker Resource Area Office.

Forest Service (FS)

In response to the National Forest Management Act of 1976 (NFMA), Final Environmental Impact Statements (FEIS's) and Land and Resource Management Plans (Forest Plans) have been prepared on the Umatilla and Wallowa/Whitman National Forests to manage lands and resources to meet future needs. The Forest Plans identify the amount of land to be managed for different uses and products and explain how the environment will be protected. They show the amount of different products and services that can be provided. The Forest Plans also describe the management practices to be used in managing each of the Forest resources.

The Forest Plans identified the Wild and Scenic rivers as separate management areas; Management Area A7, for the Umatilla Forest Plan and Management Area 7, for the Wallowa-Whitman Forest Plan. These give specific information concerning interim management of the river corridor pending completion of the river management plan. Once the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers Management Plan is completed, the two Forest Plans will be amended to incorporate the river plan.

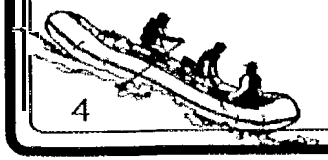
Through agreement between the Umatilla and Wallowa-Whitman Forests, the Umatilla National Forest has the management lead for all National Forest lands on the Grande Ronde River within the corridor.

Fish and Wildlife Service/National Marine Fisheries Service

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) administers the Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973 (as amended). The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) will administer the ESA with regard to listed anadromous fish species. Federal land managing agencies establish consultation with the appropriate agency on proposed actions when they are determined to affect a threatened or endangered species, or its critical habitat. If Grande Ronde Chinook salmon runs may be adversely affected by a proposed management action, then the proposed action will be modified or abandoned.

Soil Conservation Service

The Soil Conservation Service administers the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Conservation Reserve Program. This voluntary program pays farmers/ranchers who agree to take highly erodible soils out of cultivation for ten years. The program is limited to no more than 25 percent of the highly erodible soils in each county. Enrolled lands are planted to grasses and not used for grazing or other commercial purposes. It is assumed that the "reserve" lands make a substantial contribution to reduced erosion and commensurate improvement in downstream water quality.



Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission is an independent, five member commission with the Department of Energy that retained many of the functions of Federal Power Commission.

The Federal Power Commission (FPC) has jurisdiction over the power values in the public lands which are classified, withdrawn, or reserved for power purpose by virtue of Section 24 of the Federal Power Act of June 10, 1920.

The Geological Survey (GS) has authority to classify the public lands for power and certain other purposes by virtue of the act of March 3, 1879 (43 U.S.C. 31), and delegation from the Secretary of Interior.

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has certain management jurisdiction of the surface and subsurface resources, but not including the power values therein, in public lands classified, withdrawn, or served for power purposes by delegation from the Secretary of the Interior. A Memorandum of Understanding (July 20, 1966) between FPC and Department of the Interior sets out each agencies responsibilities and needed concurrences on withdrawn lands.

Northwest Power Planning and Council

The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), FS and BLM coordinate resource management programs through a memorandum of understanding. The memorandum allows regional and district coordination where similar interests exist in water resources and major utility corridors. The BLM, FS, BPA and the Northwest Power Planning Council (NPPC), through authorization by the Pacific Northwest Electric Power Planning and Conservation Act (P.L.96-501), are involved in stabilization and improvement of anadromous fish habitat, including riparian zones, through grants provided by the BPA. The BPA also assists the BLM, FS, and others in identifying and evaluating regional utility corridor options.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) reviews proposals for new power sites, and interstate energy-related pipelines; however, designation of the Grande Ronde as a Federal Wild and Scenic River precludes future dams or instream diversion structures, on the designated portion, which might be permitted by FERC.

Tribal Government

The Grande Ronde/Wallowa Wild and Scenic planning area is within the lands that were ceded to the United States Government, through a ratified treaty, by the Nez Perce Tribe. The river planning area does not include any reservation lands. Under the provisions of the 1855 Treaty, the Nez Perce Tribe reserved the right on ceded lands for its members to take fish in all usual and accustomed places, to hunt, gather roots and berries, and to pasture livestock on unclaimed lands in common with citizens. The courts have defined unclaimed lands as all Federal lands. The Nez Perce Tribe continues to use the area for hunting, fishing and other traditional practices at usual and accustomed places. The Nez Perce Tribe actively pursues protection of cultural and sacred sites, which include burials, and their treaty rights. The Tribe also jointly manages the fish and wildlife secured to them by treaty in the planning area, along with state and Federal agencies.

Lands neighboring the planning area were ceded by 1855 Treaty with the Umatilla, Cayuse, and Walla Walla tribes. That treaty reserved to the tribes rights to fish at usual and accustomed places on reaches of the Grande Ronde beyond the boundaries of the planning area. Accordingly, the Nez Perce and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla mutually support interest and concern for the fishery habitat of the Grande Ronde River drainage as a whole. Historically, portions of the Nez Perce treaty lands of the Grande Ronde and Wallowa Rivers planning area were also used by the Cayuse Tribe for fishing, hunting, and gathering.

The American Indian Religious Freedom Act affirms the right of Native Americans to believe, express, and exercise their traditional religions; including access to sacred sites, use and possession of sacred objects, and the freedom to worship through ceremonial and traditional rites. In the Wallowa and Grande Ronde/Wallowa river planning area, sites may exist which are considered sacred or important to the practice of religion by members of the Nez Perce tribe, or individuals of closely related tribes. The Native American

Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990 affirms the ownership rights of Native Americans to human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects and objects of cultural patrimony with which they are affiliated by lineal descent or culture.

In matters concerning treaty rights in the planning area the Nez Perce Tribe is consulted by federal and state governments as required by federal policy and law. Coordination is undertaken between the Nez Perce and Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla to address areas of mutual concern. Coordination and consultation between Native American tribes and the federal agencies is conducted as a government-to-government relationship. In the early stages of planning projects or activities on federal or state lands, agencies consult with the Nez Perce Tribe to identify effects on tribal interest, treaty rights, or traditional use areas and resources on the ceded lands of the planning area.

State and Local Government Planning and Management Responsibilities

Oregon and Washington Departments of Fish and Wildlife

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW), Washington Department of Wildlife (WDW), and Washington Department of Fisheries (WDF) are charged with maintaining optimum numbers of indigenous fish and wildlife, and to ensure that no species are threatened with extinction. The ODFW are responsible for developing and administering fish and wildlife regulations. The ODFW, WDW, and WDF have undertaken an aggressive program to restore riparian habitat on Department lands and have actively sought and encouraged other agencies and private landowners to follow their lead Agencies routinely monitor the Wallowa/Grande Ronde River angling effort and harvest, as well as hunter effort and harvest.

The Oregon and Washington Wildlife Departments classified the entire lower Grande Ronde and Wallowa canyons, below Minam, as critical winter range for elk, deer, mountain sheep and bald eagles.

ODFW is one of three Oregon State agencies that can apply for instream water rights. The Department has applied for water rights on the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers.

Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department

The Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department is responsible for the acquisition, improvement, maintenance and operation of Oregon's State Park system. The system is directed by the State Parks administrator through a headquarters staff in Salem and five Regional park supervisors stationed throughout the State. In addition to operating State Parks, the division gives technical assistance to local government agencies on park matters, develops and maintains the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) and administers the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund matching grant program in Oregon. The division also administers several special programs, including the Oregon Beach Law, State Historic Preservation program, Oregon Recreational Trails System, State Scenic Waterways and Willamette Greenway. The 1988-1993 edition of the SCORP is consistent with Statewide Planning Goals and recognized the 1988 Omnibus Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, BLM planning processes and agency interrelationships. The SCORP shows no designated Federal or State "National Recreational Trails", "Bicycle Route Systems" or components of the "Historic and Scenic Highways" program within the river planning area.

Oregon State Scenic Waterways

The Oregon Scenic Waterways Program is administered under the authority of the Oregon State Parks and Recreation Commission (ORS 390.805 to ORS 390-925). Administrative rules (OAR 736-40-005 to 736-40-095) have been adopted to govern the program. In addition to the general rules governing the program, specific rules are generated for management of each river segment in the system. These rules are created through the management planning process, and tailored to the actions necessary to maintain the existing character of the designated river corridor.

The Act and the Commission's rules require the evaluation of proposed land use changes within one-quarter mile from each side of the river for their

potential impacts on aesthetic and scenic values, as viewed from the river. Property owners wanting to build roads or houses, develop mines, harvest timber, or other similar projects, must provide written notification to the Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department. Parks evaluation of the project will be coordinated with other natural resource agencies (federal and state) having regulatory responsibility and with the local jurisdiction. Parks relies on its river classification and administrative rules for each segment of the scenic waterway to determine whether the proposed project is incompatible or inconsistent with the designated classification. State Parks will work with the landowner to reach a mutually satisfactory resolution of any conflicts. Where such a resolution cannot be reached, the Commission must decide, within one year of the original notification, whether to pay the property owner for the land or the development rights, or allow the landowner to proceed in accordance with the original written notification.

A number of agencies other than Oregon State Parks have land management and/or land use responsibilities within the Grande Ronde and Wallowa state Scenic Waterway corridors. Most of both corridors are within Wallowa County, with a few small portions in Union County. The Wallowa River Scenic Waterway is under study for inclusion in the federal Wild and Scenic Rivers program; lead agency for the study is the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest. The Grande Ronde Scenic Waterway is designated under the federal Wild and Scenic Rivers program; lead management agency is the Baker Resource Area, Vale District of the Bureau of Land Management. A memorandum of understanding between the United States Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management with Oregon State Parks has provided the framework by which the USFS and BLM will notify and consult with State Parks regarding land use activity on federal lands.

Oregon State Marine Board

The Oregon State Marine Board was established in 1959. The Board promotes safe recreational boating and regulates the use of watercraft on waterways throughout the state. All motorized watercraft and sailboats over 12' in length are required to be titled and registered with the Marine Board. Fishing and hunting guides and outfitters who operate in Oregon are also required to register with the Board.

The Board has the authority to adopt rules governing the operation of recreational watercraft including the ability to "make special regulations relating to the operation of boats, including the establishment of designated speeds and prohibition of the use of motorboats for the protection of game and game fish at the request of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, or the carrying out of the provisions of the federal Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, Public Law 90-542, and the Oregon Scenic Waterways Act, ORS 390.805 to 390.925."

State boating laws and operating rules are enforced by county sheriffs and the State Police. The Marine Board contracts for local enforcement services and provides the necessary funding for staff, equipment, and training for marine programs in 33 counties. In addition to law enforcement, marine patrols conduct safety inspections, place and maintain uniform waterway markers and navigational aids, and provide search & rescue services.

Grants for the development and maintenance of boating related facilities are also available to state agencies, cities, counties, port authorities, and park and recreation districts from state funds appropriated to the Board. The Board also develops and distributes boating education and safety materials including printed literature, school programs, and informational kiosks at boating access sites. Funds for the Board's programs and services come from fees paid by boaters, fuel taxes, and federal grants.

Advisory Committee on Historic Preservation

The Oregon and Washington Advisory Committees on Historic Preservation consists of nine members recognized professionally in the fields of history, architectural history, architecture, archaeology and/or other disciplines. One member represents the public at large and one represents Native Americans. The members are appointed by the Governor.

The Committees are charged with reviewing nominations to the National Register of Historic Places within the States of Oregon and Washington and recommending approved nominations to the State Historic Preservation offices pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. The committees also review Statewide Plans for Historic Preservation.

Oregon State Police

The Department of State Police was created to serve as a rural patrol and to assist local law enforcement agencies. This agency is empowered to enforce all Oregon statutes without limitation by county or other political subdivision. The Department totals 894 members strategically located at 46 stations/posts throughout the State.

The Department enforces State laws and rules. These include the river management and use rules adopted and implemented by the State Marine Board, State Parks and Recreation Department and Fish and Wildlife Department. State Police activities are coordinated with local and Federal law enforcement agencies and assisted by the general public. For example, the TIP Program (Turn in Poachers) has been established in cooperation with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Oregon Hunters' Association. This program is designed to involve citizens in reporting wildlife law violations. Responses from citizens throughout the State have resulted in many poaching arrests and convictions.

Oregon Department of Forestry

The Department of Forestry, authorized by ORS 526.008 and established in 1911, is under the direction of the state forester, who is appointed by the Board of Forestry. The statutes direct the Forester to act on all matters pertaining to forestry in the protection of forest lands and the conservation of forest resources.

These activities involve all phases of forestry, including responsibility for the protection from fire on private, state and federal forests; the detection and control of harmful forest insect pests and forest tree diseases on state and private lands; the rehabilitation and management of state-owned forest lands; and operation of a tree forest nursery. The department also administers the Oregon Forest Practices Act, Log Patrol and Log Brand Acts, Small Tract Optional Tax Law, forest land classification, forestry assistance to Oregon's 25,000 nonindustrial private woodland owners, and forest resource planning.

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality and Washington Department of Ecology

Under a memorandum of understanding, the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Washington Department of Ecology (DOE) and Federal agencies work together to meet implementation requirements of the Clean Water Act (P.L.92-500), as amended. The Federal Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act of 1958 requires wildlife conservation be given equal consideration and be coordinated with other features of water developments.

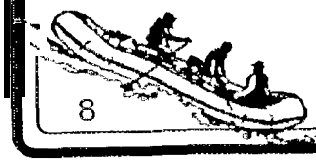
Oregon DEQ is one of three Oregon State agencies that can apply for instream water rights. DEQ also has administrative rules ability to nominate the Wallowa/Grande Ronde for Outstanding Waters classification. The Washington Department of Ecology, through its Division of Water Resources has the authority to establish instream flow requirements to protect the river-related resources of Washington.

Oregon and Washington State Departments of Agriculture

The State Departments of Agriculture cooperate with local soil and water conservation districts to establish mutual goals in coordinating range and watershed management practices and to gather and share natural resources information that has proven beneficial for use on public and private lands. Cooperation with appropriate weed control districts also occurs as needed to deal with infestations of noxious weeds.

Oregon Water Resources Department

OWRD is responsible for the management and allocation of the state's water resources. A citizen body, the Water Resources Commission develops policy and has authority on various water related issues. These policies are applied through basin programs. Sixteen of Oregon's 18 river basins have a basin program that is periodically updated. Basin programs are administrative rules which generally classify the streams and lakes for allowable future water uses.



The classifications may include domestic, livestock, municipal, irrigation, power, industrial, mining, recreation, wildlife and fish life uses. The State Water Resources Board (predecessor to current Water Resources Commission) adopted a basin program for the Wallowa/Grande Ronde River in 1958.

The Scenic Waterway Act prohibits new dams, impoundments, and placer mining in scenic waterways and on tributary streams within scenic waterway boundaries. The Scenic Waterways Act requires Water Resources Commission concurrence on proposed land condemnations, new scenic waterway management plans and scenic waterway additions proposed by State Parks and Recreation Department for designation by the governor. The Water Resources Commission must also find its actions have no adverse effects on flows that support fish, wildlife, and recreation in downstream scenic waterways. In order to make findings the Water Resources Commission approved a scenic waterway flow assessment for the Wallowa and Grande Ronde Rivers Scenic Waterways in March of 1992. This assessment reviews the known data for fish, wildlife and recreation.

OWRD issues instream water rights to protect streamflows for public purposes. Instream water rights can be granted in two ways: (1) conversion from minimum perennial stream flows and (2) application from the three state agencies: Department of Fish and Wildlife, Parks and Recreation Department, and Department of Environmental Quality. Any one of the three agencies can also acquire an instream right through donation, lease, or purchase of an out-of-stream right.

Oregon State Land Board

The Division of State Lands (DSL) is the administrative arm of the State Land Board (composed of the Governor, Secretary of State, and State Treasurer). Under constitutional and statutory guidelines, the Board is responsible for managing the assets of the Common School Fund as well as for administrating the Oregon Removal-Fill Law. These assets include the beds and banks of Oregon's navigable waterways and are to be managed for the "greatest benefit for the people of this State, consistent with the conservation of this resource under sound techniques of land management."

"DSL also administers the State's removal-fill law, which protects Oregon's waterways from uncontrolled alteration. The permit review process involves coordination with the natural-resource and land-use agencies from the local through the federal levels. Within Oregon Scenic Waterways, special authorization is needed from the Board and DSL for "any alteration of the beds and banks" of the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers (ORS 390.835)."

Wallowa, Union, and Asotin County Sheriff Departments

All three county sheriff departments are empowered to enforce all Oregon and Washington State Statutes in their respective states. This generally occurs within their respective counties, however they do have authority to cross county lines within state boundaries. Each of the counties has a marine patrol that can be conducted on the river. County sheriff activities are coordinated with State and Federal law enforcement agencies and assisted by the general public. The sheriff departments also enforce river management laws and rules adopted and implemented by the State Marine Board in Oregon and the Asotin County Shoreline Committee in Washington.

County and City Comprehensive Plans

The Omnibus Oregon Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1988, the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 and the National Environmental Protection Act of 1969 (as amended) all encourage or mandate intergovernmental coordination, consultation and, where possible, plan consistency. Since the Omnibus Act envisioned a high reliance on local comprehensive plans to achieve the objectives of the Act, a review and analysis of the adequacy of the existing plans for Wallowa, Union counties in Oregon and Asotin county, Washington is critical.

The comprehensive plans for Wallowa and Union Counties in Oregon have been acknowledged by the Oregon Land Conservation and Development Commission and are in conformance with statewide planning goals and objectives. Under Section 202 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act all BLM plans, including RMP's and site-specific activity plans (such as the Wallowa/Grande Ronde River Plan), must be consistent, insofar as possible, with officially approved or adopted State and local agencies'

resource related plans, policies and programs. Similarly, State-managed land must conform to Statewide Planning Goals and Objectives and support local comprehensive plans. Virtually all of the BLM and State-managed lands within the planning area are in county-designated "exclusive farm use" or various resource protection zones. Approved land uses compatible with the county plan guidelines for these zones include emphasis on natural values, livestock grazing, cultural, visual and recreation resource protection or enhancement.

Union County

The Union County Comprehensive Plan was acknowledged by the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) to be consistent with Statewide planning goals in 1985. The required periodic review and amendment process is currently underway. The amended plan will note Federal designation of the Lower Grande Ronde and continue to provide appropriate protection of State Scenic Waterway resources. Protective measures include setbacks for new construction on floodplain or near riparian areas and for homesteads on the river.

In summary, the current Union County plan provides a degree of specific or implied protection of natural and cultural resources. It supports diverse river-oriented recreational activities without formal policies on motorized river use, types of outfitter services or user fees. It is non-specific to river planning related public safety and service issues or potential solutions. There are no incorporated cities within the corridor within Union County.

Wallowa County

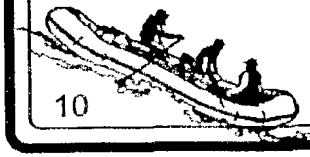
The Wallowa County comprehensive plan was acknowledged by LCDC in 1978 and amended in 1988. The existing county plan zones most lands in the Wallowa/Grande Ronde River corridor for farm and timber use with a Goal 5 Inventory. The plan's intent is to not allow actions which might permanently destroy the natural value(s). There is also a "sensitive wildlife habitats overlay" with accompanying supplementary development standards to protect riparian corridors and fisheries habitat. The plan prescribes notification and coordination with state, and federal agencies when considering actions in the Wallowa/Grande Ronde River Scenic Waterway. Visual resource protection considerations may restrict mineral development and location of structures. Fish and wildlife habitat are to be considered in approving land use and land management activities. Historical, cultural and archaeological area preservation is promoted. Development in natural hazard areas is restricted. The plan promotes development and maintenance of recreational sites and trails. Continued appropriate use of agricultural lands is encouraged to maintain the rural economy. Comprehensive planning for Wallowa County also includes the communities of Minam and Troy.

The Wallowa County Emergency Services Plan coordinates available equipment and personnel resources for a wide variety of potential situations. This includes search and rescue, hazardous material spills, and enforcement for large organized recreational and/or competitive events.

In summary, the current Wallowa County plan provides a high degree of specific protection of natural and cultural resources in the Wallowa/Grande Ronde River corridor. It supports diverse non-motorized river-oriented recreational activities without specific policies on outfitter services or user fees. The Wallowa County Emergency Services Plan supports public safety and services, but is not specifically related to river planning issues and potential solutions.

Asotin County

The Asotin County Shoreline Plan was completed in draft in 1974. The required update is currently underway. Expected amendments or revisions may include changes in policy statements which have been superseded by State law. The existing plan acknowledges and protects river related resource values associated with the lower 36 miles of the Grande Ronde River and includes the communities of Boggan's and Heller Bar. The existing plan identifies all lands in the Lower Grande Ronde River corridor for exclusive farm use and rural residential. Conditional land uses are only permitted if both county plan standards and shoreline objectives are met.



The plan identifies potential natural hazards, sensitive fish, wildlife and plant habitats, significant visual resources and water quality protection needs. The plan constrains potential mineral development, urges the use of low toxicity pesticides and provides for the protection of historical resources. The plan supports recreation site, trail and facility development, provided that adequate protection is offered to adjoining landowners and on-site sensitive resources. Improved and additional recreational access receives limited endorsement. The absence of extensive population growth has resulted in few new structures in the river corridor since the shoreline plan was drafted. There are no incorporated cities within the river corridor in Asotin County.

In summary the Asotin County Shoreline plan provides a moderate degree of specific protection of natural and cultural resources in the Grande Ronde River corridor. It supports recreational and economic activities that complement the agricultural life-style and economic base of the county.

Location and Access

The Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers corridor from Minam, Oregon to Heller Bar, Washington is located in northeast Oregon in Wallowa and Union Counties and in southeast Washington in Asotin County (Map Overview).

Boating access (put-in) and landing (take-out) points on the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers are largely determined by motor vehicle accessibility. The most popular put-in point from which to begin a float trip is located near the community of Minam at the confluence of the Minam and the Wallowa Rivers off State Highway 82. Other popular put-in points include Mud Creek on the Grande Ronde River (one-half mile downstream from the Powwatka Bridge above Troy), the town of Troy, and Boggan's Oasis in Washington where State Highway 129 crosses the Grande Ronde.

The most frequently used take-out points on the upper half of the Grande Ronde (above Troy) are Mud Creek, and the town of Troy. The most popular take-out points on the lower Grande Ronde (below Troy) are Shumaker and Heller Bar near the confluence of the Grande Ronde and Snake Rivers.

Most sections of the Wallowa and Grande Ronde are roadless, untrailed, and primitive. Along the Wallowa River, the Union Pacific Railroad follows the river for 10 miles. A country road parallels the Grande Ronde River for 27 miles from the Powwatka Bridge at Wildcat Creek, downstream to Boggan's Oasis, Washington.

Area Size and Ownership

Boise Cascade Corporation and several local ranchers control land use along the Wallowa River from Minam to approximately 2 miles below the confluence of the Wallowa and the Grande Ronde Rivers. The BLM manages 340 acres along the east bank of the Wallowa River. On the stretch of the Grande Ronde between its confluence with the Wallowa River and the town of Troy, the Walla Walla Ranger District of the Umatilla National Forest manages 17 miles of river frontage and the Baker Resource Area of the BLM's Vale District manages 9 miles. The remaining frontage, approximately 11 miles, is in State of Oregon or private ownership. On the lower half of the Grande Ronde, between Troy and the Snake River, a total of 48 miles, the Baker Resource Area of the BLM manages 13 miles of river frontage. The remaining 35 miles is in State (Oregon or Washington) and private ownership.

State ownership to the beds of navigable waterbodies was granted to Oregon in 1859 as an incidence of statehood and is an inherent attribute of state sovereignty protected by the U.S. Constitution. Currently, both the state and federal government and in some cases private property owners, claim ownership of the river's bed and bank. While the long term resolution of this issue is not the subject of this river plan, the future management implications are obvious. Therefore, while there may be disagreement on ownership, it is vitally important that there be agreement on the management philosophy for the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers.

Under state law, the Division of State Lands (DSL) is responsible for the management of the beds and banks of navigable waterbodies (ORS 274.005-274.590). DSL is the administrative arm of the State Land Board (the Board), composed of the Governor, Secretary of State, and State Treasurer. Under constitutional and statutory guidelines, the Board is responsible for

managing the assets of the Common School Fund. These assets include the beds and banks of Oregon's navigable waterways and are to be managed for the greatest benefit of the people of this state, consistent with the conservation of this resource under sound techniques of land management. Protection of public trust values of navigation, fisheries, and public recreation are of paramount importance, too.

The original federal test for determining navigability was established in The Daniel Ball case over 100 years ago. This U.S. Supreme Court case clarified that rivers "are navigable in fact when they are used, or susceptible of being used, in their ordinary condition, as highways of commerce ..." Interpreting this requirement, subsequent court decisions have ruled that a waterbody is navigable if it is capable of use as a public highway for transporting goods or for travel. The Federal test for navigability and court determination has not been made for the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers.

Within state owned waterways, any activities or land uses such as new utility or transportation corridors and boat ramps or similar facilities that impose into or cross a navigable waterway below ordinary high water will require an easement from the State Land Board. Existing facilities will require an easement at such time as they undergo major structural alteration, replacement, or relocation. In addition, removal of sand and gravel requires a royalty lease and any use that occupies any area of submerged or submersible land requires a waterway lease.

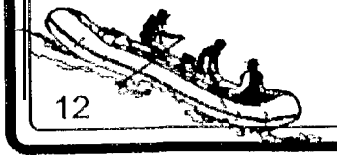
DSL has determined that there is sufficient evidence to support a claim of navigability and state ownership for beds and banks of the Wallowa River at least from Minam, OR (RM10) to Rondowa, OR (RM-0-), and the Grande Ronde River from Rondowa, OR (RM82) to OR/WA stateline (RM 38.7). The position of the BLM and Forest Service is that navigability is a judicial finding and must be made by a Federal Court. Most Oregon rivers have not been determined to be navigable or non-navigable. The BLM and Forest Service considers rivers non-navigable until proven otherwise. However, a trial may not be required if the evidence is persuasive and all partners agree. Nonetheless, the final position of the BLM and Forest Service must be based on consultation with appropriate legal counsel (Department of Justice) and the proper filing of a court stipulation. For those rivers found non-navigable, the BLM and Forest Service manages the bed and bank for the people of the United States where public lands border the river.

The DSL also administers the State's Removal-Fill Law which protects Oregon's waterways from uncontrolled alteration. The law requires a permit for fill or removal of more than 50 cubic yards of material within the State's waterway. The permit-review process involves coordination with the natural resource and land use agencies from the local through the federal levels. Within Oregon Scenic Waterways, special authorization is needed from the Board and DSL for "any alteration of the beds and banks of the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers within the plan area" (ORS 390.835).

As with any jointly managed resource, jurisdiction is not as important as care for the resource. The DSL, BLM and the Forest Service will continue to work together to assure that the public trust, interest, and the purpose of the Wild and Scenic River's Act and Oregon State Scenic Waterway's Act are met.

Public Involvement

Extensive public involvement has occurred since the Wallowa/Grande Ronde River planning process began in 1988. Several groups of volunteers contributed a large amount of time and effort in the initial stages of the process. A series of 16 meetings were held to begin identifying issues for each river segment. Many members of the public participated in these early scoping meetings. Meetings were held in Baker, OR; LaGrande, OR; Troy, OR; Enterprise, OR; Richland, OR; Ukiah, OR; Pendleton, OR; Imnaha, OR; and Clarkston, WA. Approximately 600 people attended these scoping meetings, providing the BLM and Forest Service with an extensive list of issues and concerns to be addressed during the planning effort. Coupled with the public scoping meetings, approximately 2,500 interest cards were mailed to individuals, groups, and agencies along with numerous letters and telephone calls, seeking input to the development of this plan. On April 15, 1992, approximately 1,500 letters of availability for a copy of the draft plan/environmental assessment were mailed to those individuals, groups, and agencies that responded



affirmatively to the earlier 2,500 mailing. Comments to the draft plan/EA are in Appendix F. These contacts represent a large cross section of interested river publics.

In 1989, the BLM established two citizens Ad Hoc Work Groups, one in Oregon and one in Washington, to provide planning direction for the development of the Wallowa/Grande Ronde River Management Plan. These teams consisted of representatives from state agencies, county government, Indian Nations, local communities, conservation groups, forest industries, agricultural industries, commercial outfitters, noncommercial recreation groups, and private landowners. The two citizens teams have spent many hours of volunteer time meeting with their constituents, attending team meetings, developing plan objectives, formulating issues and management alternatives. The teams have met 34 times in different locals from Joseph, OR., to Asotin, WA., providing the agencies with invaluable assistance in developing the Wallowa/Grande Ronde River Management Plan.

During this same period, the Forest Service, Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, established an Ad-Hoc citizens team to assist them in the development of a Suitability/Eligibility Study for the Wallowa River from Minam to Rondowa, under the direction of the 1988 Rivers Act. The study was independent of this management plan. However, the issues identified under the Wallowa River segment of this plan, and many of the management actions, are a direct result of input from this study group.

A summary of public comments received throughout the planning process, are included in Appendix F.

Decisions To Be Made

Specific decisions need to be made regarding the following items:

·Specific determination of the river corridor boundaries to facilitate management and protection of the rivers;

·resource use and management activities that will occur;

·acquisition of conservation easements on private lands;

·will mineral withdrawals be requested;

·the level of protection and enhancement for resource values;

·whether additional management direction (standards and guidelines) are required to achieve desired future conditions; and

·the need to amend existing management plans.

Conformance With Existing Management Plans

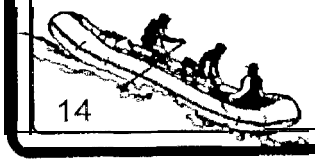
The Baker Resource Management Plan (BLM) and the Umatilla and Wallowa/Whitman Forest Plans (FS) support the development of this plan as directed by the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and Oregon State Scenic Waterways Act for those river segments within Oregon and the Baker Resource Management plan for the Washington segment. This river plan is also supported by the Oregon State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan and the Asotin County Shoreline Plan in Washington.

The Baker RMP provides the following decision on the Grande Ronde Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC): Public lands on the Grande Ronde River (9,715 acres) in Oregon and Washington, and on the Snake River in Washington, are designated and will be managed as an ACEC. Within the ACEC, approximately 2,570 acres of BLM lands are included within the boundaries of the Grande Ronde Wild and Scenic River. The ACEC will be managed to promote protection of the area's unique natural, scenic, geologic, ecologic, and cultural resource values; and to protect wildlife habitat and enhance recreation opportunities. Geologic system values of the Goosenecks National Natural Landmark near the mouth of the Grande Ronde will be protected. The visual resource will be protected within the viewshed corridor along the rivers; only those uses compatible with maintaining visual resource classifications will be allowed. Habitat for bald eagles, raptors, game and non-game species, and anadromous fish will be maintained or improved in cooperation with federal and state agencies. A management plan will be

developed for the entire ACEC to protect natural, scenic, cultural and recreation values and will be subject to the requirements of this river plan within the river corridor. Adjacent lands or inholdings may be acquired to enhance wildlife habitat, cultural resources, and recreational opportunities. A "no surface occupancy" restriction will be applied to oil and gas exploration or development. Off-road vehicle use will be limited to designated roads and trails. Commercial timber harvest will be restricted to prescriptions that protect or enhance natural, visual, and cultural values.

The Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers management plan will be appended to the BLM Baker RMP.

Land and Resource Management Plans for the Umatilla and Wallowa-Whitman National Forests provide management direction for the National Forest System lands included within the river corridor. This river plan will amend the Forest Plans.



CHAPTER 2 -
EXISTING SITUATION

Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORVs)

The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act declares it to be the policy of the United States that certain rivers possess "outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreation, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural or other similar values and shall be preserved in free-flowing condition". The outstandingly remarkable values of the Grande Ronde River identified in support of the Congressional Record include: Wildlife, fisheries, recreational, and scenic values.

The ORV's described below are those values identified within the National Wild and Scenic River segment from Rondowa to the Oregon/Washington stateline. Similar values, as determined through this analysis, exist in the Wallowa segment and the Washington Grande Ronde segment and are discussed in their respective sections in this plan.

Boundaries

As directed by the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, a corridor has been established, based on resource values, not to exceed an average of 320 acres per river mile, established on aliquot parts (see maps 2 through 11). The resource values considered when establishing the river boundaries are the outstandingly remarkable values discussed in the Congressional Record and identified in this section. Maps 1 through 12 shows private and federal land ownership. The state Scenic Waterway segment which overlaps with the federal Wild and Scenic River designation is from Rondowa to the Oregon/ Washington border. The boundaries for the State Scenic Waterway are set at 1/4 mile on each side of the river from mean high water line and is set by legislation.

SPECIFIC DESCRIPTION OF VALUES

The Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service, and State of Oregon have agreed on standards to evaluate outstandingly remarkable values. The following values are evaluated according to the criteria to verify that the ORVs established by Congress are valid.

Scenic

Criteria for Outstandingly Remarkable Rating

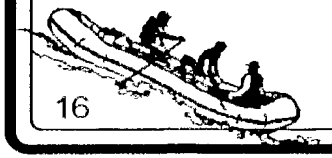
The landscape elements of landform, vegetation, water, color, and related factors result in notable or exemplary visual features and/or attractions. When analyzing scenic values, additional factors such as seasonal variations in vegetation, scale of cultural modifications, and the length of time negative intrusions are viewed may be considered. Scenery and visual attractions may be highly diverse over the majority of the river or river segment.

Evaluation of the Present Situation

The designated river corridor for the Grande Ronde River contains a diversity of landforms and vegetation that captures the attention of the viewer. Vegetative color, enhanced by climatic change, adds a fresh and distinctive face to the landscape over each of the seasons. The progression from largely forested vistas to forested stringers separated by native bunchgrass slopes give depth and variety to the landscape. The setting from which the viewer experiences the scenery is perhaps the greatest quality of the river. River users have a primitive experience within a largely untouched scenic viewshed in the upper river reach, while the lower portion flows through open grass covered hills with forested pockets and tributary canyons that are accessed by roads that serve the historical ranch community of Troy and adjacent benchlands above the river canyons.

Conclusion

Through agency inventories and land use planning efforts, the river corridor has been classified to retain the existing character of the landscape. Level of change to the characteristic landscape through management actions will be subordinate to the overall landscape integrity. Management activities will not degrade scenic qualities. Any change must repeat the basic elements of form, line, color, and texture found in the predominant natural features of the landscape.



The Grande Ronde River offers a diversity of landscapes that contain those visual qualities that result in outstandingly remarkable scenic values. This finding confirms the Congressional Record relating to the scenic values of the Grande Ronde River.

Recreational

Criteria for Outstandingly Remarkable Rating

Recreational opportunities are, or have the potential to be, unique enough to attract visitors from outside of the geographic region. Visitors would be willing to travel long distances to use the river resources for recreational purposes. River-related opportunities could include, but not be limited to, sight-seeing, wildlife observation, photography, hiking, fishing, hunting, and boating.

Interpretive opportunities may be exceptional and attract or have the potential to attract visitors from outside the geographic region.

The river may provide or have the potential to provide settings for national or regional usage or competitive events.

Evaluation of the Present Situation

Use surveys conducted in 1984, and over the period of 1987-1991, show that the Grande Ronde River is visited by recreationists of geographically diverse origins. Eighty-four percent of visitors to the river are from outside northeast Oregon. In addition, 22 percent are visitors from outside the tri-state region of Oregon, Washington, and Idaho. International visitors have also been present each season.

Visitors travel long distances to recreate along the Grande Ronde River because it has the following attributes:

- The river is floatable from ice break-up in the spring until freeze-up in the winter for 2 years out of 5. This is an unusually long float season for a free flowing river.
- The river provides a rare, 2 to 5 day duration, primitive float experience for individuals of beginning and moderate skill levels.

The recreational experience occurs within a pleasingly diverse landscape. Typical float trips begin in a setting dominated by coniferous forests and end in a semi-arid grassland steppe.

Existing recreational uses that are exceptional in quality include: anadromous and resident fishing, floating (rafting, canoeing, and kayaking for overnight use), and big game viewing/hunting.

Conclusion

The recreational opportunities available on and near the Grande Ronde River are determined to be of outstandingly remarkable value. This finding confirms the Congressional record relating to the recreational value of the Grande Ronde River.

Geologic

Criteria for Outstandingly Remarkable Rating

The river or the areas within the river corridor contains an example(s) of a geologic feature, process, or phenomena that is rare, unusual, one-of-a-kind, or unique to the geographic region. The feature(s) may be in an unusually active stage of development, represent a "textbook" example and/or represent a unique or rare combination of geologic features (erosional, volcanic, glacial, and other geologic structures.

Evaluation of the Present Situation

The Grande Ronde River flows in a canyon eroded primarily through the Columbia River Basalt Group and Associated sedimentary interbeds. At the confluence with the Snake River, erosion has exposed an older limestone formation. Volcanic and erosional features such as rooster combs, devil's post piles, caves, talus slopes, rim rocks and narrow tributary canyons add visual diversity to the recreation experience and increase the visitor's interest in the area. However, the nearby Snake River in the Hells Canyon National

Recreational Area provides a much more spectacular example of these characteristics.

Conclusion

The geologic features within the Grande Ronde River are not unique to the region. Such features are more readily observable in the nearby Hells Canyon National Recreational Area where they are of greater diversity and quality. Therefore, the geology of the Grande Ronde River does not meet the criteria for an outstandingly remarkable value, but does meet the criteria as a significant resource value within the geographic region.

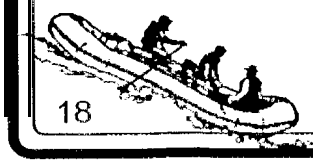
Fisheries

Fish values may be judged on the relative merits of either fish populations or habitat, or Native American cultural use, or a combination of these river-related conditions. Consideration shall be given for potential as well as existing values.

Criteria for Outstandingly Remarkable Rating

Populations: The river is international, national, or regionally an important producer of resident and/or anadromous fish species. Of particular significance is the presence of wild stocks and/or federal or state listed Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive (TES) species. Diversity of species is an important consideration and could, in itself, lead to a determination of outstandingly remarkable.

Habitat: The river provides or has the potential to provide exceptionally high quality habitat for fish species indigenous to the region. Of particular significance is habitat for wild stocks and/or federal or state listed or candidate threatened, endangered, and sensitive species. Diversity of habitats is an important consideration and could, in itself, lead to a determination of outstandingly remarkable.



Evaluation of the Present Situation

The Grande Ronde River is a nationally renown sport fishery which is frequently cited in outdoor publications and commercial outfitter/guide advertising. The river system is identified and rated by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife as a special management area for anadromous fisheries and is one of the top three sport fisheries within the region. The river and its major tributaries provide spawning and rearing habitat for both wild and hatchery stocks of spring chinook, fall chinook, summer steelhead, and rainbow trout. The river fisheries resource is important to the Nez Perce tribe and also to the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation as it affects anadromous fisheries in the lower Columbia River. The fall and spring runs of the chinook salmon found in the Wallowa River, Grande Ronde River, and tributaries are federally listed as TES species by the National Marine Fisheries Service.

Conclusion

The quality and importance of the fisheries habitat and its resulting resident and anadromous species diversity and TES listing qualifies this resource to be considered an outstandingly remarkable value. This finding confirms the Congressional record relating to fisheries values of the Grande Ronde River. Management activities shall protect habitat for wild stocks and/or Federal or State listed Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive species.

Wildlife

Wildlife values shall be judged on the relative merits of either wildlife populations or habitat, or Native American cultural use, or a combination of these conditions.

Criteria for Outstandingly Remarkable Rating

Populations: The river or area within the river corridor contains nationally or regionally important populations of indigenous wildlife species. Of particular significance are species considered to be unique or populations of federal or state listed or candidate threatened, endangered, and sensitive species. Diversity

of species is an important consideration and could in itself lead to a determination of outstandingly remarkable.

Habitat: The river or area within the river corridor provides exceptionally high quality habitat for wildlife of national or regional significance, or may provide unique habitat or a critical link in habitat conditions for federal or state listed or candidate threatened, endangered, and species. Contiguous habitat conditions are such that the biological needs of the species are met. Diversity of habitats is an important consideration and could, in itself, lead to a determination of outstandingly remarkable.

of the Present Situation

The Grande Ronde River corridor is a highly sensitive wintering area for the bald eagle (a federally listed threatened species in Oregon and Washington) and has the potential for providing nesting habitat based upon historical use. The Grande Ronde is encompassed in an Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Special Management Area for bighorn sheep, elk, mule deer, and whitetail deer. The river corridor provides critical wintering habitat for these species. There is an exceptional diversity of species affording excellent viewing opportunities for game and nongame species. Major species include waterfowl, herons, shorebirds, raptors, upland birds, perching birds, river otters, mink, black bear, bobcat, turkey, and mountain lion. The wildlife resource within the canyon corridor is an important Nez Perce subsistence hunting treaty area.

Conclusion

The quality and importance of the habitat and its resulting wildlife species diversity qualifies this resource to be considered and outstandingly remarkable value. This finding confirms the Congressional Record relating to wildlife values of the Grande Ronde River.

Pre-Historic, Cultural

Criteria for Outstandingly Remarkable Rating

The river or area within the river corridor contains a site(s) where there is evidence of occupation or use by Native Americans. Site(s) must have unusual characteristics or exceptional human interest value(s). Sites may have national or regional importance for interpreting prehistory; may be rare and represent an area where a culture or cultural period was first identified and described; may have been used concurrently by two or more cultural groups; or may have been used by cultural groups for rare or sacred purposes. Of particular significance are sites or features listed in, or are eligible for inclusion in, the National Register of Historic Places.

Evaluation of the Present Situation

The river corridor was extensively utilized by Native Americans for over 8,000 years as a hunting, fishing, and gathering area. There are also indications of religious uses of the area associated with Native Americans. No systematic cultural resource inventories have been completed for the river corridor. It is known, however, that all river flats were occupied, at least seasonally, and that pit houses, sweat lodges, and rock shelters are present.

Conclusion

Although no cultural resource inventories have been completed for the Grande Ronde River corridor, there are indications the area was extensively utilized. Its significance regionally or nationally is yet to be determined. A cultural inventory to identify sites in the river corridor will be completed with a determination of resource significance. During the interim, known and discovered sites are protected under existing statutes, regulations and policy.

Historic, Cultural

Criteria for Outstandingly Remarkable Rating

The river or area within the river corridor contains a site(s) or feature(s) associated with a significant event, an important person, or a cultural activity of the past that was rare, unusual or one-of-a-kind in the region. A historic site(s) and/or feature(s) in most cases is 50 years old or older. Of particular significance are sites or features listed in, or are eligible for inclusion in, the National Register of Historic Places.

Evaluation of the Present Situation

The Grande Ronde River corridor was a traditional use area of the Nez Perce and Cayuse Tribes during historical times. Detailed inventories and literature searches have not been conducted to determine the extent of associated cultural resources.

From the turn-of-the century to the years of the Great Depression, many homesteads were established on the larger river flats and also on the bench flats above the river. Remains of structures constructed during this period are obvious at several locations in the river corridor.

Conclusion

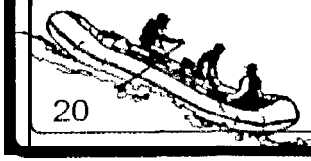
Even though it is known that there are historic cultural resources along the Grande Ronde River, there is insufficient information available at this time to make a determination of significance.

State Scenic Waterway Resource Analysis

For the purposes of State Scenic Waterway classification and land management rules for the Grande Ronde River, the above river values that have been found to be Outstandingly Remarkable (Scenic, Recreational, Fisheries, Wildlife, and Cultural) have been found by Oregon State Parks Department to be "Special Attributes" as defined by OAR 736-40-040.

Other Similar Values

While no specific evaluation guidelines have been developed for the "other similar values" category, assessments of additional river-related values consistent with the foregoing guidance will be completed - including but not limited to hydrologic, cultural, paleontologic, botanical, and ecologic resources. There are no wilderness areas and/or wilderness study areas within the river corridor.



Physiography

The Grande Ronde River, which drains much of northeast Oregon's Union and Wallowa Counties, is fed by snowpack in the Blue Mountains. The Wallowa River, a major tributary to the Grande Ronde, headwaters in the Wallowa Mountains, mostly within Eagle Cap Wilderness. These river sections are characterized by steep, rugged canyon walls that rise from 3,000 to 4,000 feet above river level. Dense conifer forests blend into grassy slopes set off by scattered conifer "stringers". The Nez Perce called the Wallowa River valley "Land of Winding Waters". The river drops nearly 2,000 feet in elevation during the 90 mile section from Minam to Heller Bar on the Snake River in Washington.

Watershed

The Grande Ronde River rises in the Elkhorn Range of the Blue Mountains in northeastern Oregon. On its 212 mile northeasterly journey to the Snake River, it drains 3,701 square miles in Oregon and 249 square miles in Washington. One of its tributaries, the 54 mile Wallowa River, begins at Wallowa Lake, which is fed by streams originating in the Eagle Cap Wilderness. It drains 928 square miles in the central area of the Grande Ronde basin. The basin's topography is characterized by rugged mountains in the headwater areas, which give way to the broad Grande Ronde and Wallowa River valleys. The plateaus of the lower basin are dissected by precipitous canyons. The dominant land cover changes from forested land at higher elevations to rangeland at lower elevations. Large areas in the Grande Ronde and Wallowa valleys are used for agriculture, of which about two-thirds are irrigated. The lower ten miles of the Wallowa River, beginning at the confluence of the Minam River, is being evaluated for inclusion in the Federal Wild and Scenic River system; this stretch was designated an Oregon State Scenic Waterway in 1988 The Grande Ronde River, from Rondowa to state line, was added to both the federal and state scenic river systems in 1988. The most significant tributaries to the designated reach of the Grande Ronde are Wildcat, Mud, and Courtney Creeks, and the Wenaha River. The designated portions of the Wallowa-Grande Ronde Rivers flow through deep canyons exposing many layers of the Columbia flood basalt.

Table 2: Average Monthly and Annual Runoff, 1927-1982
Grande Ronde River at Rondowa

Month	Minimum (CFS)	Maximum (CFS)	Mean (CFS)	Standard Deviation (CFS)	Coefficient Of Variation	Percent of Annual Runoff
OCTOBER	343	1978	641	266	.41	2.5
NOVEMBER	342	3346	858	491	.57	3.3
DECEMBER	358	3942	1256	858	.68	4.8
JANUARY	298	3554	1326	845	.64	5.1
FEBRUARY	395	5029	1791	1055	.59	6.9
MARCH	611	7600	2674	1215	.45	10.3
APRIL	1498	8089	4274	1540	.36	16.5
MAY	1965	10010	5576	1795	.32	21.5
JUNE	1561	9662	4709	1914	.41	18.1
JULY	345	4692	1712	933	.54	6.6
AUGUST	269	1098	589	210	.36	2.3
SEPTEMBER	318	933	543	151	.28	2.1
ANNUAL	855	3416	2160	608	.28	100.00

Table 3: Average Monthly and Annual Runoff, 1945-1982
Grande Ronde River at Troy

Month	Minimum (CFS)	Maximum (CFS)	Mean (CFS)	Standard Deviation (CFS)	Coefficient Of Variation	Percent of Annual Runoff
OCTOBER	603	2559	915	320	.35	2.4
NOVEMBER	688	3023	1239	519	.42	3.3
DECEMBER	685	6295	2158	1544	.72	5.7
JANUARY	702	6280	2273	1363	.60	6.1
FEBRUARY	769	7386	3095	1612	.52	8.2
MARCH	888	11520	3893	1855	.48	10.4
APRIL	2257	10780	6335	2251	.36	16.9
JUNE	2159	13820	7656	2496	.33	20.4
MAY	2368	11610	6035	2112	.35	16.1
JULY	520	4951	2291	990	.43	6.1
AUGUST	448	1375	873	219	.25	2.3
SEPTEMBER	574	1190	798	140	.18	2.1
ANNUAL	1136	4912	3125	816	26	100.00

Average annual precipitation along these reaches is estimated to range between 15 and 30 inches. Peak precipitation occurs during the winter months While the lower canyon and south slopes usually remain free of snow, considerable snow accumulates in side canyons and along the north slopes. Precipitation is lowest during July and August.

There is no gauge to measure stream flow on the Wallowa River near the designated reach. However, its flow near the town of Joseph and the flow of several of its tributaries exhibit a strong peak in the late spring and early summer, reflecting the snowmelt in the high Wallowa Mountains. The runoff characteristics of the Grande Ronde at the beginning of the designated reach and near its lower end are shown in Tables 2 and 3. The annual average flow at Rondowa (Table 2), including the contribution of the Wallowa, is 2,160 cubic feet per second (cfs). It increases to 3,125 cfs at Troy (Table 3). The flow is influenced slightly by small upstream reservoirs and irrigation diversions. At both stations, about 64 percent of the runoff occurs during the spring snowmelt from March through June. Only about 10 percent occurs during the months of lowest flow, August through November.

Water Rights

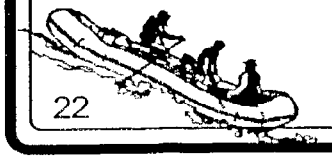
In the States of Oregon and Washington, all water is publicly owned and the laws pertaining to surface and ground water usage are based on the laws pertaining to surface and ground water usage are based on the principle of Prior Appropriation. That is, the first person to obtain a water right will be the most senior holder on a particular stream, and has priority over all junior claims in times of water shortage. Permits for water use from any source must be obtained from the Oregon Water Resources Department or the Washington Department of Ecology (Division of Water Resources), although exceptions do exist and are recognized and specified by the States.

There are presently no surface water rights within the designated Wallowa River corridor. Along the designated Grande Ronde River in Oregon, ten water rights of record authorize the diversion of slightly more than three cubic feet per second (3 CFS), primarily for irrigation. Several private and municipal water rights exist along the Grande Ronde River in Washington. Each of the individual water rights certificates specify the legal limits on consumptive water use in the reach.

The State of Oregon also recognizes instream water rights for the public benefit to maintain sufficient flows to protect recreation, fish, wildlife and other river related resources. Instream water rights are applied by and through the State of Oregon's Department of Environmental Quality, the Department of Parks and Recreation, or ODFW to the State's Water Resources Commission. The priority date for certified instream water rights is the application date with OWRD. Several instream water rights exist within the designated Grande Ronde drainage basin. A similar program protecting flow-dependent resources exists in Washington, however, no instream flow requirements have been established at this time.

The Oregon State Legislature has determined that "the highest and best uses of waters within state-designated Oregon Scenic Waterways are recreation, fish and wildlife uses" (ORS 390.835). The statute prohibits placer mining, water impoundments, and new diversions. Alteration of the bed or banks of an Oregon Scenic Waterway is also restricted. To reflect provisions of the law, the Oregon Water Resources Commission has limited the further appropriation of water for some uses within and upstream of Oregon Scenic Waterways which were designated prior to the 1988 Initiative (Measure Seven). The Commission is expected to take similar action on the state-designated reaches of the Grande Ronde/Wallowa Rivers, as the basin program is updated.

Similarly, the Washington State Legislature passed the Water Resources Act of 1971 to protect and manage water resources in Washington for "the greatest benefit of the people" of Washington. Limitations on withdrawals in the lower Grande Ronde basin in Washington restrict diversions during the summer months (May 1 - September 15) for fisheries resources.



Current BLM policy is to use States' instream flow water right processes to preserve the flow-dependent values for which the river was designated. The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (PL 90-542) specifically reserved the minimum quantity of water necessary to fulfill the purpose(s) for which the river was designated. This Federal Reserved water right for the designated reaches of the Grande Ronde River has a priority date of October 28, 1988, the date of designation. A Federal Reserved water right is exercised only if the State's appropriative instream water right is inadequate to protect the designated values of the rivers.

TABLE 4:
Nonpoint Source Stream Segments and Impacts [1/]

Segment Name	Segment No. Number	Water Quality	Fisheries	Aquatic Habitat	Water Contact Recreation
Grande Ronde R	271	M/O	M/O	M/O	-
Grande Ronde R	272	S/D	M/D	S/D	S/D
Courtney Creek	292	M/O	M/O	M/O	-
Wallupa/Wildcat Ck	293	S/O	S/O	S/O	-
Grossman Creek	294	M/O	M/O	-	-
Wallowa River	295	S/D	M/D	M/O	S/D
Joseph Creek	302	S/O	M/O	S/O	-

M = Moderate, S = Severe, D = With Data, O = By Observation
[1/]Nonpoint Assessment Report located in Vale District Office

TABLE 5:
Selected State Water Quality Criteria for the Grande Ronde River Basin

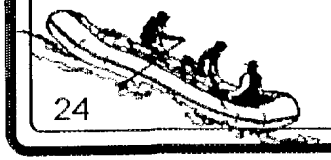
pH	6.5 to 8.5 (OR&WA)
Water Temperature	No measurable increase outside of assigned mixing zone when temp. 68 deg.F or greater; or more than 0.5 deg. increase from single source when waters are 67.5 deg. or less; or more than 2 deg. increase from all sources when waters are 66 deg. or less. (OR) Temperature shall not exceed 18 deg.C due to human activities. Nor exceed t = 28/(T + 7), at any time. When natural conditions exceed 18 deg.C no increase allowed which will raise receiving water by greater than 0.3 deg.C (WA)
Dissolved Oxygen	Not < than 75% saturation at season low Not < than 95% saturation in spawning areas (OR) Shall not exceed 8.0mg/l (WA)
Turbidity	No more than a 10% cumulative increase over natural stream turbidities (OR) Shall not exceed 5 NTU over background when turbidity is 50 NTU or less or more than 10% when turbidity is 50 or more (WA)
Fecal Coliform	Mean of 200 per 100ml in a 30 day period 10% samples not exceeding 400 per 100ml (OR) Mean of 100 per 100ml, with not more than 10% samples exceeding 200 per 100ml (WA)

Water Quality

Historical long-term site-specific water quality is quite sparse for the entire Grande Ronde River Drainage. During 1988, the Oregon Statewide Assessment of Nonpoint Sources of Water Pollution Report identified and rated the entire Grande Ronde River Drainage system in Oregon as containing stream segments having moderate to severe water quality impacts affecting the desired uses of these waters. These findings were published in the Oregon Statewide Assessment of Nonpoint Sources of Water Pollution Report. This report identified many reaches (Table 4) as having nonpoint source problems impacting water quality, fisheries, aquatic habitat, and water contact recreation in the river corridors addressed in the plan.

The report identifies the most commonly cited causes of beneficial use degradation by nonpoint pollution to fish, other aquatic organisms, wildlife, water recreation, and streamside aesthetics as removal of thermal cover over streams and riparian vegetation. Other causes cited include animal waste, surface erosion, and road runoff. The land uses most commonly cited in connection with these problems were grazing and forestry related activities of timber management, harvest, and road construction, human and animal traffic, water withdrawal, reservoir storage and release, altered physical characteristics of the stream, bank filling, and channelization/wetland drainage. The report also identified many of these reaches as having nonpoint source problems with stream temperature, turbidity, low dissolved oxygen, nutrient loading, sediment, and low flow volumes affecting aquatic biota at certain times of the year at different locations. The Bureau is a cooperating federal agency with the State of Oregon in this assessment and has made a commitment to improve nonpoint source conditions impacting stream segments and to implement Best Management Practices on public land.

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality has divided the State's surface waters into 19 sub-basins and developed point and nonpoint source water quality standards for each of these basins. Some water quality criteria for the Oregon and Washington portions of the Grande Ronde River Basin are contained in Tables 4 and 5.



A coordinated multiple agency (State & Federal) monitoring plan which addresses water quantity and quality will be pursued for the Grande Ronde River Basin to determine if Best Management Practices on State and Public Lands are meeting Oregon and Washington state approved standards.

Climate

The climate of the Blue Mountains physiographic province is characterized by a short growing season and little or no summer precipitation. Annual precipitation averages 20 inches per year and ranges from 15 to 30 inches, much of it falling as winter snow. Temperatures range from average summer high of 80°F. to a average winter low of 17°F. Summer temperatures fluctuate widely with hot days and cold nights. At higher elevations, frost can occur almost any night of the year. Winter temperatures remain low for long periods and considerable snow accumulates in side canyons and on north slopes. However, the lower canyon and south slopes remain free of snow most winters. Winter conditions can be severe in most of the Wallowa/Grande Ronde River area. The lower canyon offers the mildest conditions available in the area and has consequently been used as a winter range for wildlife.

Fish and Wildlife

The fish and wildlife resources of the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers corridor include a wide range of species and are listed in tables 6, 7, 8, and 9.

The lower canyons of the Wallowa and the Grande Ronde Rivers, below Minam, are important winter range for many game and non-game animals. The most important game animals include Rocky Mountain elk, mule deer, white tailed deer, bear, cougar, bighorn sheep, turkey, chukars, Hungarian partridge, grouse, quail, ducks and geese. The non-game animals of most importance include the bald eagle, osprey, Peregrine falcon, golden eagle, harlequin ducks, Barrows and Common goldeneye duck, Lewis woodpecker, pileated woodpecker, pine marten, river otter, and the western spotted frog.

Salmon and steelhead runs in the Grande Ronde and Wallowa Rivers have declined precipitously in the last 100 years. Late in the nineteenth century more than 12,000 sockeye entered Wallowa Lake to spawn. Coho at the same

time numbered at least 5,000 in the Wallowa River. Both species are now extinct in the river system. More than 12,000 spring chinook were estimated to be entering the Grande Ronde River subbasin in the late 1960's but now number less than 1,000. No early estimates for fall chinook populations are available but recent surveys have found zero to seven redds in the Washington section. Nearly 16,000 summer steelhead were estimated to be entering the Grande Ronde system in the late 1960's while the present estimate is 11,000.

This decline is due to over harvest (especially in the late 1800's), irrigation diversions, Columbia and Snake River Dams and irrigation diversion dams, and turn of the century hatchery practices in the Grande Ronde and Wallowa Rivers. Irrigation diversions dry up portions of streams, divert juvenile salmonids onto the fields, and return silt laden water to the streams which smothers salmon eggs and food organisms. Irrigation diversion dams, which include gravel berms, were generally constructed without thought for fish passage. The Wallowa Lake Dam outlet is also impassable for adult fish migrating upstream to spawn.

The Lower Snake River Compensation Plan and associated hatcheries was developed to mitigate for losses of fish attributed to construction of the four lower Snake River dams. Three hatcheries were constructed (Lookingglass for spring chinook, Lyons Ferry for fall chinook, and Irrigon for steelhead), one hatchery was modified to eye-up summer steelhead eggs (Wallowa) and two satellite facilities were constructed as acclimation/release and adult capture sites (Big Canyon and Cottonwood Creek). The only species which has responded favorably to the current hatchery system is summer steelhead.

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Washington Department of Wildlife, Washington Department of Fisheries, and Nez Perce Tribe biologists stress the importance of the lower Grande Ronde and Wallowa Rivers remaining in a free-flowing state for the protection and enhancement of the fishery on this river system. The lower river segments are especially important during winter months as holding areas for young salmon and steelhead on their migration downstream. The smaller streams in the upper tributaries of the rivers become too cold in winter for the young fish to survive, so they move into the lower river as water temperatures drop. Likewise, adult steelhead migrating upstream move into the lower river and winter there, waiting for the spring runoff and warmer water before moving upstream to spawn. Natural spawning areas in the tributaries of the upper Grande Ronde and Wallowa Rivers are important in the production and rearing of salmon and steelhead as fish stocks are re-introduced into these streams.

With the official listing by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) of Snake River chinook salmon stocks as threatened and sockeye salmon stocks as endangered on April 22, 1992, and November 20, 1992 respectively, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and Forest Service are required to comply with the Endangered Species Act (ESA) Section 7(a)2 - to insure that any BLM or Forest Service action is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of the species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of critical habitat of such species (refer to Appendix L).

Table 6: Mammals of the Wallowa Grande Ronde Rivers Corridor

Rocky Mountain Elk
Mule Deer
White-tailed Deer
Bighorn Sheep
Badger
Bob Cat
Black Bear
Mountain Lion
Porcupine
Deer Mouse
Bushy-tailed Packrat
Mountain Cottontail
Fisher
Belding Ground Squirrel
Pika
Coast Mole
Snowshoe Hare
Black-tailed Jack Rabbit
Yellow-pine Chipmunk
Yellow-belly Marmot
Columbian Ground Squirrel
Golden Mantled Ground Squirrel
Northern Pocket Gopher
Western Skunk
Beaver
Harvest Mouse
Canyon Mouse
Voles (several burrowing species)
Raccoon

Table 7: Fish of the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers Corridor

Black Crappie
Redband Trout
Smallmouth Bass
Bridgelip Sucker
Large Scale Sucker
Carp
Dace
Northern Squawfish
Brown Bullhead Catfish
Bull Trout
Steelhead Trout
Peamouth
Chiselmouth
Brook Lamprey
Spring Chinook
Fall Chinook
Channel Catfish
Rainbow Trout
Whitefish
Cottid
Redside Shiner

Table 8: Reptiles and Amphibians of the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers Corridor

Long-toed Salamander
Western Toad
Pacific Tree Frog
Western Spotted Frog*
Western Fence Lizard
Western Whiptail
Rubber Boa
Western Garter Snake
Common Garter Snake
Racer
Striped Whipsnake
Gopher Snake
Night Snake
Western Rattlesnake

* Indicates species that are on the States and/or Federal rare, threatened, and endangered species list.

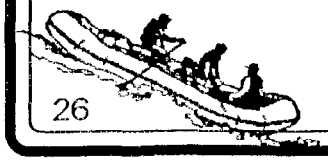


Table 9: Birds of the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers Corridor

American Gold Finch
American Redstart
Ash-throated Flycatcher
Audubon's Warbler
Bald Eagle*
Bank Swallow
Barn Owl
Barn Swallow
Barred Owl
Barrow's Goldeneye*
Belted Kingfisher
Black Rosy Finch
Black-billed Magpie
Black-capped Chickadee
Black-chinned Hummingbird
Black-throated Gray Warbler
Blue Grouse
Brewer's Blackbird
Broad-tailed Hummingbird
Brown Creeper
Calliope Hummingbird
Canyon Wren
Cedar Wax-wing
Chestnut-backed Chickadee
Chickadee
Chukar
Clark's Nutcracker
Cliff Swallow
Common Goldeneye*
Common Junco
Common Merganser
Cooper's Hawk
Crow
Downy Woodpecker
Ferruginous Hawk
Flammulated Owl
Flicker
Golden Eagle
Golden-crowned Kinglet
Goshawk
Gray Catbird
Gray Jay
Gray Partridge
Greentailed Towhee
Great Blue Heron
Great Gray Owl
Great Horned Owl
Hairy Woodpecker
Hammond's Flycatcher
Harlequin Duck*
Hermit Thrush
Hooded Merganser
Horned Lark
House Finch
House Finch
House Sparrow
House Wren
Kestrel
Killdeer
Lazuli Bunting
Lewis Woodpecker*
Lincoln's Sparrow
Loggerhead Shrike
Long-billed Marsh Wren
Long-eared Owl
Long-eared Owl
Mac Gillivray's Warbler
Mallard
Marsh Hawk
Meadow Lark
Merlin
Mountain Bluebird
Mountain Chickadee
Nashville Warbler
Northern Oriole
Olive-sided Flycatcher
Orange-crowned Warbler
Osprey
Peregrine Falcon*
Pileated Woodpecker
Pine Siskin
Prairie Falcon
Pygmy Nuthatch
Pygmy Owl
Raven
Red Crossbill
Red-breasted Nuthatch
Red-eyed Vireo
Red-tailed Hawk
Robin
Rock Wren
Rough-legged Hawk
Rough-winged Swallow
Ruby Crowned Kinglet
Ruffed Grouse
Rufus Hummingbird
Rufussided Towhee
Saw-whet Owl
Screech Owl
Sharpshinned Hawk
Snipe
Solitary Vireo
Song Sparrow
Spotted Sandpiper
Steller's Jay
Swainson's Hawk
Swainson's Thrush
Townsend's Solitaire
Townsend's Warbler
Tree Sparrow
Tree Swallow
Turkey
Turkey Vulture
Varied Thrush
Vaux's Swift
Veery
Violet-green Swallow
Warbling Vireo
Western Bluebird
Western Flycatcher
Western Kingbird
Western Wood Peewee
White-breasted Nuthatch
White-crowned Sparrow
White-headed Woodpecker
White-throated Swift
Williamson's Sapsucker
Willow Flycatcher
Wilson's Warbler
Winter Wren
Wood Duck
Yellow Warbler
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
Yellow-breasted Chat
Yellow-rumped Warbler

* Indicates species that are on the States and/or Federal rare, threatened, and endangered species list.

Vegetation

The Grande Ronde and Wallowa Rivers are within a ponderosa pine and grassland zone, however, the canyon has provided a "micro-climate" environment different enough to cause a distinct variation in the dominant vegetation.

In the upper sections of the canyon, Douglas fir and white fir dominate, with mixed stands of ponderosa pine. Also mixed in the coniferous forests are smaller amounts of Western Larch, Engelmann spruce, alpine fir and lodgepole pine. Typical understory shrubs include ninebark, oceanspray, snowberry and spirea.

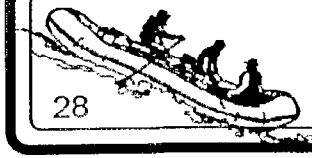
The conifer forests tend to form in scattered stands intermixed with bunch grasses, except in small side drainages with north or east exposures which often contain dense stands of mixed conifer dominated by Douglas fir and white fir, with ninebark and oceanspray understory.

The lower canyon is characterized by shrub and grassland species. Lower slope positions, 1,500 to 3,000 feet above sea level, are generally bunchgrass associations, including warm season grasses such as sanddropseed, prairie three-awn, and others. Warm, dry slopes most often have bluebunch wheatgrass-sandberg bluegrass while more northerly aspects occasionally have bluebunch wheatgrass-Idaho fescue. These lower grassland slopes are occasionally interrupted by Douglas fir associations on sheltered north slopes.

Douglas-fir, hackberry, and occasional ponderosa pine most often dominate exposed streamsides. Because of historical overgrazing, introduced annuals dominate the flatter, more accessible areas. Introduced weed species such as knapweed continue to invade the river corridor. Cheatgrass brome presently dominates the understory of most Douglas-fir/hackberry associations.

Along streamsides and where surface water is more available, white alder associations with box elder and water birch are common. Introduced tree species often comprise portions of the streamside overstory near old homesteads. Some introduced trees, such as black locust, reproduce, thrive, and are expanding their ranges in the river corridor. Native hardwood shrubs such as chokecherry and bittercherry are common components of the understory.

Streamside terraces may support bluebunch wheatgrass as potential vegetation Much of it was severely disturbed and now supports cheatgrass brome. Many terraces have been tilled and planted to timothy and alfalfa hay crops which are irrigated.



A. Plants of Special Interest

1. Federal T&E Lists

Federal Candidate C-2

Lepodactylon	pungens (Torr.)Nutt	ssp.hazeliae (Peck)Meinke	

2. Washington T&E Lists

Extirpated/Extinct List

Hackelia	hispida (Gray)Johnst.	var. hispida	Grande Ronde River Mile 23.5, N side

Sensitive List

Astragalus	arthuri Jones		Grande Ronde River Mile 11, S side
Astragalus	cusickii Gray	var. cusickii	Grande Ronde River, Mile 23.5 N side
Lomatium	serpentinum(M.E.Jones)Math.		Grande Ronde River, Deer Cr Mile 19

3. Oregon T&E Lists

Federal T&E Candidate
Oregon (ODA) T&E Candidate
Oregon Natural Heritage Program (NHP)

List 1

Lepodactylon	pungens (Torr.)Nutt	ssp.hazeliae (Peck)Meinke	

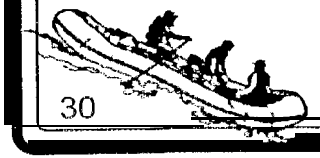
List 3 (Review List)

Corydalis	caseana Gray	var. cusickii (Wats.)Hitchc.	Wallowa River Mile 8, below Minam St Park

List 4 (Watch List)

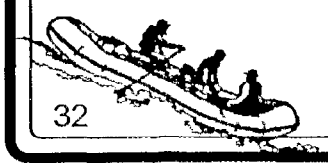
Allium		madidum Wats	W bank of Wallowa River, Mile 2.2
Cyripedium	montanum Dougl.		West side of Wallowa River at Mile 8

Genus	Species	Sub Species (Variety)	Location
B. Regional Endemics			
Lupinus	sulphereus Dougl.	var. sulphureus	Wallowa River, Mile 5.0, E. side
Nemophila	kirtleyi Hend.		Grande Ronde R., Mile 11, S side
Penstemon	fruticosus Dougl.	v. serratus (Keck) Cronq	Grande Ronde R., Mile 63.8, N side
Phlox	colubrina Wherry&Const.		Grande Ronde R., Mile 11, S side
Phlox	viscida E. Nels.		50 yds NE SR 129 Bridge, mile 26.2
C. Other Native Species			
Achillea	millefolium L.	ssp.lanulosa(Nutt)Piper var. lanulosa	SR 129 Grande Ronde River Mile 26.2
Allium	acuminatum Hook.		Grande Ronde River, Mile 63.8, N side
Allium	macrum Wats.		SR 129 Grande Ronde River Mile 26.2
Allium	tolmiei Baker		GR River, Mi 58.3 (Opp Sickfoot Cr)
Alnus	incana (L.) Moench	var.occidentalis(Dippel)Hitchc	West side of Wallowa River at Mile 8
Amelanchier	alnifolia Nutt.	var. pumila (Nutt.)A.Nels.	Grande Ronde River, Mi 11, S side
Amsinckia	menziesii(Lehm.)Nels&Macbr		Island in Grande Ronde River, Mile 8.2
Amsinckia	retrosa Suksd.		Grande Ronde River Deer Cr, Mile 19
Antennaria	neglecta Greene	var. howellii (Greene)Cronq.	Grande Ronde River, Mile 63.8, N side
Aquilegia	formosa Fisch.		West side of Wallowa River at Mile 8
Arnica	cordifolia Hook.	var. cordifolia	West side of Wallowa River at Mile 8
Artemesia	tridentata Nutt.		
Artemesia	ludiviciana		
Astragalus	purshii Dougl.		Grande Ronde River, Mile 11, S side
Balsamorhiza	sagittata (Pursh)Nutt		
Betula	papyrifera Marsh	var. subcordata (Rydb) Sarg.	West side of Wallowa River at Mile 8
Blepharipappus	scaber Hook.	var. scaber	Grande Ronde River at Deer Cr Mile 19
Brodiaea	douglasii Wats.		Grande Ronde River Mi 23.5, N side
Calochortus	elegans Pursh		West side of Wallowa River, Mile 8
Camassia	quamash (Pursh)Greene		West Bank of Wallowa River, Mile 2.2
Carex	sheldonii Mack		Island in Grande Ronde River, Mile 8.2
Castellija	hispida Benth.	var. acuta (Pennell)Ownbey	Wallowa River, Mile 5.0, E side
Celtis	reticulata Torr.		
Cicuta	douglasii (DC)Coult.&Rose		Wallowa River, Mile 3.7, E side
Cirsium	utahense Petr.		Grande Ronde R., Mile 73, N Side
Clarkia	pulchella Pursh		Grande Ronde River, Mile 11, S side



Genus	Species	Sub Species (Variety)	Location
Claytonia	lanceolata Pursh	var. lanceoloata	Southern Boundary of Minam State Park
Clematis	liguticifolia Nutt.		N Bank Grande Ronde River, Mile 8.0
Collinsia	parviflora Lindl.		Grande Ronde River, Mile 23.5, N side
Collomia	grandiflora Dougl.		Grande Ronde River, Mile 11, S side
Collomia	linearis Nutt.		Grande Ronde River, Mile 63.8, N side
Collomia	tinctoria Kell		Grande Ronde River, Mile 23.5, N side
Cornus	stolonifera Michx.	var. stolonifera	Grande Ronde River at Deer Cr Mile 19
Crepis	atrabarba Heller	var. atrabarba	Grande Ronde River, Mile 63.8, N side
Cryptantha	torreyana (Fray)Greene		Grande Ronde R Mi 4.7 (The Narrows)
Delphinium	nuttalianum Pritz.	var. nuttalianum	Grande Ronde River Mile 23.5, N side
Descurainia	pinnata (Walt.)Britt.	var. nelsonii (Rydb.)Peck	Grande Ronde R Mi 4.7 (The Narrows)
Dicentra	cucullaria (L.)Bernh.		Grande Ronde River Mile 23.5, N side
Dodecatheon	conjugens Greene		Grande Ronde River, Mile 17, S bank
Draba	stenoloba Ledeb.	var. nana (Shultz)C.L. Hitchc.	Grande Ronde River Mile 23.5, N side
Draba	verna L.		Grande Ronde River, Mile 23.5, N side
Erigeron	divergens T.& G.		Grande Ronde R Mi 4.7 (The Narrows)
Erigeron	philadelphicus L.		Wallowa River, Mile 5.0, E side
Eriogonum	compositum Dougl.		N bank Grande Ronde River, Mile 8.0
Eriogonum	niveum Dougl.		N bank Grande Ronde River, Mile 8.0
Eriogonum	umbellatum Torr.		N bank Grande Ronde River, Mile 8.0
Eriophyllum	lanatum (Pursh)Forbes	var.integrifolium(Hook)Smiley	Grande Ronde River, Mile 60.1
Erysimum	asperum (Nutt.)DC		Grande Ronde R Mi 4.7(The Narrows)
Erythronium	grandiflorum Pursh	var. grandiflorum	Southern boundary of Minam State Park
Fragaria	vesca L.	var. crinata (Rydb)Hitchc.	West side of Wallowa River at Mile 8
Fritillaria	pudica (Pursh)Spreng.		Grande Ronde River, Mile 11, S side
Galium	aparine L.	var.echinospermum(Wallr.)Farw.	20' W of Wallowa R at Minam, Mile 10
Galium	multiflorum Kell		Grande Ronde River, Mile 63.8, N side
Geranium	viscosissimum F&M		Wallowa River, Mile 5.0, E side
Gilia	aggregata (Pursh)Spreng.	var. aggregata	
Heracleum	lanatum Michx.		Wallowa River, Mile 1, W bank
Heuchera	cylindrica Dougl.	var. alpina Wats.	West bank of Wallowa River at Mile 8
Heuchera	micrantha Dougl.		Wallowa River, Mile 4.5
Hydrophyllum	capitatum	var. capitatum	
Lappula	redowskii (Horneng)Greene	var. capulata (Gray)ME Jones	N. bank Grande Ronde River, Mile 8.0
Leptodactylon	pungens (Torr.)Nutt.		GR River, Mi 58.3 (Opp Sickfoot Cr)
Lithophragma	parviflora (Hook.)Nutt.		Grande Ronde River Mi 23.5 N side
Lithospermum	ruderale Dougl.		Grande Ronde River Mi 23.5 N side
Lomatium	ambiguum(Nutt.)Coult.&Rose		Grande Ronde River Mile 23.5, N side
Lomatium	cous(Wats.)Coult.&Rose		Grande Ronde River Mile 23.5, N side
Lomatium	dissectum(Nutt)Math&Const.	var.multifidum(Nutt)Math&Const	Grande Ronde River Mile 23.5, N side
Lomatium	macrocarpum(Nutt)Coult&Rose		Grande Ronde River, Mile 11, S side
Lomatium	triternatum(Pursh)Coult&Rose		SR 129 Grande Ronde River, Mile 26.2

Genus	Species	Sub Species (Variety)	Location
Lupinus	caudatus Kell.		Grande Ronde River, Mile 63.8 N side
Lupinus	lepidus Dougl.	var. aridus (Dougl)Jeps.	Grande Ronde River, Mile 11, S side
Lupinus	sericeus Pursh	var. sericeus	SR 129 Grande Ronde River, Mile 26.2
Lupinus	sulphereus Dougl.	var.subsaccatus(Suks)Hitchc.	Wallowa River, Mile 5.0, E side
Luzula	campestris (L.)DC	var. multiflora (Ehrh.)Celak	Wallowa River, Mile 3.7, E side
Mimulus	guttatus DC	var. guttatus	50 yds NW SR 129 Bridge, Mi 26.2
Mitella	trifida Grah.		West side of Wallowa River Mile 8
Montia	arenicola (Hend.)Howell		Grande Ronde River,Deer Cr Mile 19
Montia	chamissoi(Ledeb)Rob.&Fern		West bank of Wallowa River Mile 2.2
Montia	perfoliata (Donn.)Howell		Grande Ronde River, Deer Cr, Mile 19
Opuntia	polycantha Haw		N bank Grande Ronde River, Mile 8.0
Orobanche	uniflora L.		Grande Ronde River, Mi 23.5, N side
Osmorhiza	depauperata Phil.		Wallowa river, Mile 3.7, E side
Paeonia	brownii Dougl.		
Penstemon	attenuatus Dougl.	var. attenuatus	Grande Ronde River, Mile 63.8, N side
Penstemon	deustus Dougl.	var. deustus	50 yds NW SR 129 Bridge, Mile 26.2
Penstemon	glandulosus Dougl.		Grande Ronde River, Mile 23.5 N side
Penstemon	venustus Dougl.		GR, Mi 58.3 (opp Sickfoot Cr)
Phacelia	hastata Dougl.	var. leucophylla(Torr.)Cronq.	Grande RondeRiver, Mile 73, N side
Phacelia	linearis (Pursh)Holz.		Grande Ronde River, Mile 11, S side
Philadelphus	lewisii Pursh		
Physocarpus	malvaceus (Greene)Kuntze		West side of Wallowa River, Mile 8
Plectritis	macrocera T&G		Grande Ronde River, Mile 23.5, N side
Polygonum	spergulariaeforme Meisn.		Grande Ronde River, Mile 11, S side
Potentilla	glandulosa Dougl.	var. nevadensis Wats.	50 yds NW SR 129 Bridge, Mile
Potentilla	gracilis Dougl.	var. brunnescens(Rydb.)C.L. Hitchc	Wallowa River, Mile 5.0, E side
Prunus	emarginata (Dougl)Walpers.	var. emarginata	Grande Ronde River, Mi 23.5, N side
Prunus	virginiana L.	var. melanocarpa (Nels)Sarg.	100 yd NE SR 129 Bridge, Mile 26.2
Purshia	tridentata (Pursh)DC		
Ranunculus	glaberrimus Hook	var. glaberrhimus	Grande Ronde River, Mile 23.5, N side
Ranunculus	uncinatus D.Don	var. uncinatus	West side of Wallowa River at Mile 8
Rhus	glabra L.		Along GRR
Rhus	radicans L.		Along GRR
Ribes	niveum Lindl.		Grande Ronde River, Deer Cr, Mile 19
Rosa	nutkana Presl.		Grande Ronde River, Mile 63.8, N side
Rubus	leucodermis Dougl.	var. hispida Fern.	Wallowa River, Mile 4.5
Rubus	parviflorus Nutt		Wallowa River, Mile 1, W bank
Sambucus	cerulea Raf.		



Genus	Species	Sub Species (Variety)	Location
Saxifraga	arguta D.Don		West bank of Wallowa River, Mile 8
Scutellaria	antirrhinoides Benth		50 yds NE SR 129 Bridge, Mile 26.2
Sedum	lanceolatum Torr.	var. lanceolatum	Grande Ronde River, Mi 52.6, N bank
Senecio	integerrhimus Nutt.	var. exaltatus(Gray)Cronq.	Grande Ronde River, Mile 63.8, N side
Sidalcea	oregana (Nutt.)Gray		
Silene	scouleri Hook.	var. scouleri	Island in Grande Ronde River, Mile 8.2
Smilacina	racemosa (L.)Desf.		Wallowa River, Mile 3.7, E side
Smilacina	stellata (L.)Desf.		GRR Mile 19, ½ mi S Deer Cr
Symphoricarpos	oreophilus Gray	var. utahensis (Rydb.)A Nels	Grande Ronde River, Mile 63.8, N side
Thalictrum	occidentale Gray		West side of Wallowa River at Mile 8
Thelypodium	lancinatum (Hook). Endl.	var. streptanthoides (Leiburg)Pays.	N Bank Grande Ronde River, Mile 5.6
Thermopsis	montana Nutt.		Grande Ronde River, Mile 23.5 N side
Tonella	floribunda Gray		50 yds NW SR 129 Brdige, Mile 26.2
Tragopogon	dubis Scop.		Grande Ronde River, mile 63.8, N side
Trifolium	longipes Nut.	var. reflexum Nels.	West side of Wallowa River at Mile 8
Urtica	dioica L.		Island in Grande Ronde River, Mile 8.2
Vicia	americana Muhl.	var. truncata (Nutt.) Benth	50 yds NW SR 129 Bridge, Mile 26.2
Woodsia	oregana D.C.Eat.		West bank of Wallowa River at Mile 8
Wyethia	amplexicaulis Nutt.		Wallowa River, Mile 5.0, E. side
D. Introduced Plants			
Alyssum	alyssoides L.		N bank Grande Ronde River, Mile 8.0
Anthriscus	scandicia (Weber)Manfield		Grande Ronde River, Mile 23.5, N side
Aspergo	procumbens L.		Grande Ronde River, Mile 13, S bank
Cynoglossum	officinale L.		20' W of Wallowa R at Minam, Mile 10
Erodium	cicutarium (L.) L'Her		Grande Ronde River, Mile 23.5, N side
Lamium	amplexicaule L.		Grande Ronde R at Deer Cr., Mile 19
Lamium	purpureum L.		20' W of Wallowa R at Minam, Mile 10
Lepidium	campestre (L.)R.Br		20' W of Wallowa R at Minam, Mile 10
Lepidum	perfoliatum L.		Grande Ronde R at Deer Cr., Mile 19
Morus	alba L.		Island in Grande Ronde River, Mile 8.2
Myosotics	micrantha Pall		Grande Ronde R. Mile 23.5, N side
Thlaspi	arvense L.		20 yds NW SR 129 Bridge, Mile 26.2
Valerianella	locusta (L.)Betcke		20' W of Wallowa R at Minam, Mile 10

Cultural Resources

Cultural resources consist of the sites and locations of past human activities and places important to the perpetuation of social and cultural lifeways and values. Cultural resources include archaeological and historical sites, locations of traditional use and cultural activities.

American Indians have been active along the Grande Ronde and Wallowa Rivers for many years. The tribes that are now called the Umatilla and Nez Perce, were closely related in earlier times and had many shared hunting, fishing and gathering areas, one of which was the lower canyons of the Wallowa and Grande Ronde Rivers. For the same reasons the canyon is an excellent winter feeding area for wildlife, it also provided a winter home for the Indians.

Two major Indian trails pass through the study area. They were used by the Nez Perce and others for traveling, hunting, fishing and gathering. One route entered the Grande Ronde Canyon in the vicinity of Troy and followed upstream to Rondowa, then up the Wallowa River to Minam, and on into the Wallowa Valley. It connected the lower Snake river area near Asotin to the Wallowa Valley. Another trail from the Walla Walla area entered the canyon near Rondowa, joined the other trail and followed the Wallowa River into the Valley.

A reconnaissance of approximately 10% of selected public lands along the Grande Ronde River has resulted in the identification of archaeological sites indicative of prehistoric and historic resource use and occupation on the river spanning millennia. Ancient villages and camps, hunting and fishing stations, rockshelters, cairns, and burials provide tangible evidence of occupation. No intensive inventories have been conducted on the majority of the public lands, and most of the known sites have not been evaluated against the criteria that qualify a property for the National Register of Historic Places. However, a portion of the lower reach of the Grande Ronde River in Washington, at its confluence with the Snake River, is contained within the boundaries of the Snake River National Register District, and includes Nez Perce village and camp archaeological sites on public and private lands which are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Ethnographic records clearly demonstrate that the tribes of northeast Oregon and southeast Washington occupied and jointly used the resources along the Grande Ronde River long before Euro-American settlement, and continue to use these resources to this day. Locations of culturally important resources, or areas of traditional use are also a cultural resource important to maintaining the cultural heritage and lifeways of these first people of the land. Culturally important resources include fish, wildlife, roots, berries, medicinal and other plants. There were seasonal Indian hunting and fishing camps at Rondowa and Minam, often shared by the Nez Perce, Cayuse, Walla and Umatilla Tribes. The Nez Perce also had a winter camp at Troy and upstream from Heller Bar. The discovery of gold and the press of white settlement resulted in the Nez Perce War of 1877 and the removal of Indians from the canyon corridor.

By 1880, white settlement of the canyon corridor had begun in earnest. The first pioneer settlement in the area was at Grouse Flats north of Troy in the 1880's. Homesteading in this remote and rugged country lagged behind other more accessible areas. Historic sites on the Wallowa River include railroad-related structures, early fishery management locations, and homesteading. The recorded historic sites along the Grande Ronde River include several turn of the century homesteads with remains of dwellings and outbuildings, ditches, rock walls, orchards and fields.

Early homesteading activities were devoted to subsistence farming and ranching. A mild climate made the lower Grande Ronde popular for wintering livestock and for raising fruits and vegetables. During the homesteading era, small family farms and ranches were built in nearly every suitable area of the canyon corridor.

Homesteading began to wither by World War I and a process of consolidation began. The economy of the post-war period favored larger operations. Inflation and a changing marketplace forced ranchers to expand or to sell out. By the 1930's this led to a much smaller number of sheep and cattle operations.

Evidence of the rivers' cultural history can be glimpsed today in the form of historic and prehistoric places and objects on the public land. These cultural resources, both historic and prehistoric are fragile and irreplaceable. Both historic and archaeological sites and burials have been damaged by looting and vandalism, but there are as yet cultural resource properties on the river with a high degree of integrity. Other documented or potential threats to the cultural resources in the Grande Ronde River include recreation uses, livestock grazing and unauthorized land disturbing actions, such as road construction or trespass timber harvest.

The Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979, as amended, the Antiquities Act of 1906, and the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990 protect this cultural heritage on public lands for the benefit of all Americans. Illegal surface collection, excavation, and disturbance is subject to both criminal and civil penalties. In Oregon and Washington, state laws provide protection against disturbance of archaeological sites and prohibit the disturbance of Indian graves on both public and private lands.

Recreation

Recreation opportunities in the Grande Ronde and Wallowa Rivers include boating, camping, picnicking, fishing, hunting, scenic viewing, nature study, horseback riding, hiking and swimming.

Recreation use data for the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers is incomplete. Some recreational use, by activity, is available from ODFW Wallowa/ Grande Ronde Trout Study in 1981, the BLM/USFS Grande Ronde River Use Survey in 1983, and the BLM Wallowa/Grande Ronde River Ranger end of year reports of 1987 -1991.

The above survey results, although not entirely consistent, show that use on the rivers is directly correlated to the weather and the water flow. Rainy, cold weather and/or droughts caused significant reductions in the amount of river use and other activities associated with boating. Refer to Tables 11 and 12.

The amount of recreational use is occurring at acceptable levels. Normal depreciatory behavior is present. Many floaters are novice and not familiar or equipped for "no-trace" use.

Other user data comes from the Oregon State parks and Recreation Division visitor use recorded for the Minam State Recreation Area. This data only shows overnight camping and day use, no breakdown of other activities is available.

Whitewater boating is the most popular recreation activity that takes place on the Wallowa/Grande Ronde, and has been for several years. The river can be floated almost any month except during late summer and winter when

W. OV GRA DE RONDE RIVER
IS R U SUMMARY 1991

	No. of Users	No. aunc	Avg. roup Size	ser D:	Average User Length of Stay
Commercial	297	35	8.5	679	2.4
Noncommercial	2540	446	5.7	6070	2.5
Total	**2837**	**481**	**5.9**	**6749**	**2.5**
Administrative River Patrols[1/]	122	26		334	

TABLE 12: WALLOWA/GRANDE RONDE RIVERS FLOAT SEASON ANNUAL VISITOR USE 1987 - 1991

	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991
Commercial	315	326	425	276	297[1/]
Noncommercial	2002	2124	2759	2638	2540[2/]
Total	2317	2450	3184	2914	2837

[1] This figure represents the amount of use as obtained by river rangers and documented by registry forms completed by commercial guides at the river launch sites.

[2] This figure represents the amount of use as obtained by river rangers and documented by registry forms completed by private boaters at the river launch sites. An estimated 20% of private boater use goes unreported during the float season due to the limitations of the ranger program to be present at the various launch sites at all times. This figure does not include spring and fall fishing use or fall and winter hunting use. No estimates are available for those uses.

water flows get too low or ice builds up. Occasionally during spring run-off, flows become too high for safe boating.

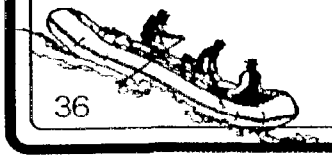
Five major landmark rapids have been identified. Two on the Wallowa - House or Red Rock Rapids and Blind Falls Rapids, and three on the Grande Ronde - Sheep Creek Rapids, Martins Misery Rapids, and the Narrows. There are numerous smaller rapids and stretches of fast water, plus rock walls.

The normal float boating seasons on the Wallowa and Grande Ronde Rivers are from May through July or early August, and again in October and November. Incidental power boat activity has been noted.

Boating access (put-in) and landing (take-out) points on the Wallowa and Grande Ronde are largely determined by motor vehicle accessibility. The most popular put-in point from which to begin a float trip is located near the town of Minam at the confluence of the Minam and the Wallowa Rivers off State Highway 82. Other popular put-in points include Palmer Junction upstream from Rondowa, Mud Creek on the Grande Ronde River (one-half mile downstream from the Powwatka Bridge above Troy), the town of Troy, and Boggan's Oasis in Washington where State Highway 129 crosses the Grande Ronde. The most frequently used take-out points on the upper half of the Grande Ronde (above Troy) are Mud Creek, and the town of Troy. The most popular take-out points on the lower Grande Ronde (below Troy) are Shumaker and Heller Bar near the confluence of the Grande Ronde and Snake Rivers. By using the various put-ins and take-outs, it is possible to plan float trips lasting from one to five days or even longer. The float traffic is also influenced by launch points which are upstream from the corridor boundary. Elgin and Palmer Junction are used to a much lesser degree than Minam.

The quality of the boating experience on the Wallowa and Grande Ronde Rivers is linked closely to the character of the river at the time it is floated. For the highly skilled and adventuresome boater, river flows of 10,000 cfs offer a fast and exciting experience. At the other end of the scale are family groups with small children who take five leisurely days to make the same trip when the flow is about 1,000 cfs. The contrast is one aspect of the Wallowa/Grande Ronde that makes it highly desirable as a recreational river.

Individuals and private parties are not required to secure permits to float the Grande Ronde River. However, professional outfitters must obtain permits from the Forest Service. Outfitters offer a variety of service in conjunction with the river experience. The Forest Service, Walla Walla Ranger District, has regulated commercial outfitters use on the Grande Ronde River within the National Forest since 1978 Their records show an increase from 4 outfitters



in 1978 to 23 outfitters in 1991. There is no limitation on the amount of use or the number of permits that may be issued to all applicants who meet basic qualifications and follow the prescribed administrative process.

No trails for recreational, point-to-point travel exist within the corridor. Some short, informal pathways have been developed by use of campers and hunters.

In 1987 the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service began administering a River Ranger Program on the Wallowa and Grande Ronde Rivers. The rangers monitor commercial river use, maintain campsites, gather valuable river use information, and provide visitor services and information, including stream flows and river hazards. The Rangers also provide rescue and safety assistance. The river Rangers are stationed at Minam, Oregon throughout the spring/summer use season, and patrol from Minam to Heller Bar.

The BLM conducted campsite inventories during the 1989-1991 float seasons. The inventory, completed in 1991, identified 224 camps on public land along the 90 mile Wallowa/Grande Ronde corridor. All campsites inventoried are primitive and serve also as rest stops and picnic sites. Refer to Table 13.

The Oregon State Parks and Recreation Division has a 602 acres parcel along the west side of the Wallowa River below Minam that extends down river for about 2 miles. This camping area is accessible by road as well as by the river. The Recreation Area has 12 primitive campsites with tables, fire-rings, toilets and water available. There are also five picnic units.

Recreational fishing on the Grande Ronde/Wallowa Rivers like camping, is also closely associated with floating the rivers. Angler counts by the Oregon and Washington Departments of Fish and Wildlife indicate that about 80 percent of angling occurs in June and July, which correlates to the greatest frequency of boaters. According to department biologists, the trout fishing improves as the river flow decreases and fish become concentrated in deeper pools where they find more cover and cooler temperatures.

Trout fishing is primarily for rainbow of which there are both wild and stocked populations. The streams are managed to encourage maximum utilization of the trout fishery by recreationists. Fisherman also catch bull trout, whitefish and smallmouth bass. Steelhead fishing is done mostly in the spring and fall, but is sometimes associated with float boating as well, particularly steelhead fishing. More typically, steelhead are caught on the lower section of the Grande Ronde in Oregon and Washington.

Plans are underway to reestablish historic salmon runs. However, the sport salmon fishery on the lower Grande Ronde will only be improved slightly due to high water conditions at the time of the salmon migration. The lower river reaches, below Troy, will be improved more than in the rest of the corridor.

TABLE 13: WALLOWA/GRANDE RONDE RIVERS PUBLIC LAND CAMPSITE INVENTORY, 1991

	Wallowa River	Grande Ronde River		
		Oregon	Washington	Total
Number of Sites	3.0	87.0	41.0	131.0
Number of Camps	8.0	147.0	69.0	224.0
Campsite Capacity (# of People)	185.0	2585.0	1335.0	4105.0
Campsite Capacity/People (Avg.)	23.1	17.6	19.3	18.3
Campsite Capacity (# of Boats)	45.0	822.0	289.0	1156.0
Campsite Capacity/Boats (Avg.)	5.6	5.6	4.2	5.2
Average Mileage Between Sites			0.48	0.90

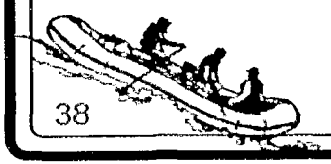
There are basically two types of fishing experiences on the Grande Ronde and Wallowa Rivers: (1) Bank fishing, where roads and trails provide access. This includes some summer trout with a majority of fall and winter steelhead fishing. (2) Drift fishing, where a boat is used to get access to more remote areas and includes mostly trout fishing. This also includes fall and winter steelhead fishing.

The most intensive hunting activities within the corridor are for deer and elk, in September, October, and November. Hunting pressure is much greater on the ridges and breaks, outside of the corridor, than it is inside the area. Access is the limiting factor along the rivers, with drift boats as the simplest means. Below Rondowa, in the lower canyon, there is some upland game bird and wild turkey hunting.

Other recreation activities that take place in and along the rivers include swimming, horseback riding, nature study and sight-seeing. There is also hiking in the side canyons and forested areas near the river. Swimming, hiking and nature study take place in conjunction with boating, as floaters stop to rest and venture away from the river.

Horseback riding and hiking from other locations into the canyon is restricted due to lack of roads and trails in the canyon.

The scenic attractions of the lower Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers have been recognized for many years. The Nationwide Rivers Inventory, prepared in 1980 by the U.S. Department of the Interior, identified the Grande Ronde and the Wallowa Rivers, below Minam, as important natural free-flowing rivers. The inventory described them as possessing "High scenic quality, excellent examples of gooseneck meanders, and as having high recreational boating, and important fishery resources." The Goosenecks National Natural Landmark is an excellent example of lateral entrenched meanders on the Grande Ronde River. The landmark designation includes public and private land at two locations in the lower river corridor: at the Oregon/Washington border and near the Narrows at the mouth of Joseph Creek.



The canyon slopes have many steep rock terraces, sheer basalt cliffs and overhanging bluffs. The multiple layers of the Columbia River Basalt that are exposed in the canyon walls, show a variety of shape and color that provide the viewer a continuous, awe-inspiring experience as the view changes from one meander to another. A wide variety of forests, trees, shrubs and grasslands are visible and contribute substantially to the scenic quality of the corridor.

Scenic quality is enhanced considerably by water and its ever changing nature as it tumbles and swirls over rocks, around islands, cutting steep banks on one turn and depositing the sand and silt on a bar at the next turn. The diversity of a river experience is improved greatly by the frequent sightings of wildlife; elk, deer, bear, bighorn sheep, otter, eagles and a variety of birds and other animals.

Recreational and camping facilities are not abundant within the corridor. The Minam State Park, which includes a developed campground, is the only public site designed for overnight use. Overnight lodging is available at Minam and Troy. Several years ago a few picnic tables and primitive pit toilets were installed along the National Forest sector. The toilets were removed in 1991. In 1990, a vault toilet was installed at the Mud Creek site. An undeveloped ODFW site downstream from Troy has a toilet and is available for public camping. There are six Washington Department of Wildlife camp sites that include restroom facilities.

Range

Nez Perce Indians grazed horses in the Canyon as early as the 1730's. In the late 1800's, settlers began domestic livestock grazing and in these early years, some of the range was grazed continually. Some areas are in poor condition today despite light use by livestock. Many of the poor sites are along the river bank. The key to plant health in grazing alternatives is the timely rotation (or movement) of the grazing animals. Properly managed grazing systems can be used to protect and enhance some of the ORV's in the corridor. Individual allotment management plans should be implemented with emphasis on riparian area enhancement.

During the early 1900's, grazing occurred all season long as weather, water and forage availability permitted. Sheep and cattle allotments peaked in 1920. A cattle grazing permit existed, at one time, on the portion of public land from Bear Creek to Elbow Creek in the Wild portion of the river corridor. This permit was curtailed in the 1950's and the area is now considered elk winter range. The only remaining domestic grazing in this portion of the river designated as Wild is solely supported by private land, with the exception of some scattered BLM parcels. The general pattern of use for grazing on this land has been in April-May and/or November-December, depending on the weather and forage conditions. Range condition is in generally fair condition.

A generally shorter winter season is often experienced in the lower reaches of the river. Particularly during mild winters, the range can often accommodate grazing during this period. During various times of the year, elk, deer, bighorn sheep, and cattle coexist. Wildlife often prefer the more palatable regrowth occurring after initial forage utilization by cattle. Production agriculture on the breaks of the corridor provides an important additional source of year round forage for wildlife.

Livestock operations are an important part of the local and regional economy.

With the official listing by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) of Snake River chinook salmon stocks as threatened and sockeye salmon stocks as endangered on April 22, 1992, and November 20, 1992 respectively, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is required to comply with the Endangered Species Act (ESA) Section 7(a)2 - to insure that any BLM action is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of the species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of critical habitat of such species (refer to Appendix L).

Geology

The Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers are within the Blue Mountains physiographic province of northeast Oregon and southeast Washington. The portions of the rivers included in this management plan flow in canyons eroded into the Tertiary age Columbia River Basalt Group. Between 17.5 and 6 million years before present, the basalt lava flows of the Columbia River Basalt Group repeatedly erupted from fissures up to 90 miles long. These eruptive fissures were concentrated in the Blue Mountains province. The hot molten lava spread out over more than 77,000 square miles (a total area larger than the State of Washington) and formed the Columbia River Plateau. The basalt averages about 3500 feet in thickness with a maximum of nearly 15,000 feet near the center of the Plateau. Larger individual eruptions covered over a third of the Plateau in a few days time.

During the last stages of the basalt eruptions, the Blue Mountains province was uplifted, folded and faulted. These tectonic events formed the seven mountain ranges and the intermontane valleys that we see today. The Wallowa and Grande Ronde rivers began flowing through the lower terrain in the down-faulted valleys and basins and have continued to erode steep-sided canyons through the many basalt flows and the associated sedimentary interbeds. As a result the canyon walls typically look stair-stepped with many steps filled in with talus (loose rock) from layers above. The river has cut through 1,000 to 2,500 feet of basalt and excavated over seven cubic miles of rock out of the main canyon to shape it to its present form.

Beds of alluvial gravel and cobble rock can be seen on the slopes of the canyon above the river. These show the location of the river channel at times in the past. Rocks seen in these deposits, and in gravel bars along the river today include basalt and older metamorphic and intrusive igneous rocks found in the Wallowa Mountains.

Within the upper reaches of the corridor, there are several bends where the river has undercut a basalt layer, leaving an overhang just above the river that adds to the geologic interest and scenic beauty of the canyon.

Forestry

Forest stands in the river corridor from Minam to Troy, Oregon consist primarily of old growth/mature mixed conifers. North slopes tend to have more Douglas and Grand fir in the overstories while south slopes tend toward ponderosa pine. Both aspects have dense understories of Douglas and Grand fir. Historically these stands carried a much lower level of stocking in the overstories and that ran much heavier to ponderosa pine and

the understories consisted mostly of a shrub/forb/grass mix. The forest was uneven in age structure, more open, and heavy to fire climax tree species.

Past removal of fire tolerant species and the exclusion of fire from its natural role in the forest environment has given us overstocked stands of true climax tree species, and has given us a fuel situation with explosive potential. The three fire events that have occurred recently in the corridor, demonstrate in a very clear fashion the devastating nature of wildfire with these fuel loadings.

All the insect and disease agents that are endemic to the region are found in this portion of the corridor. However, due to the exclusion of fire from the forest environment coupled with over six years of drought conditions; spruce budworm, dwarf mistletoe, and various root rots have gone from endemic to epidemic. Forest stands that were already stressed due to overstocking now have these agents to deal with which then compounds a fuel situation that is already catastrophic.

From Troy, the remainder of the corridor, historically, consisted primarily of old growth/mature ponderosa pine that has succumbed for the most part to bark beetles and a scale insect. Natural regeneration is almost nonexistent. Domestic livestock played a major role in the prevention of natural regeneration and so must be controlled when these stands are reestablished by planting.

All of the private forest land and much of the public forest land within the corridor has a long history of timber harvest. In addition to providing economic benefits, forestry practices, including harvest, can be viable tools used to restore stands to more stable conditions. All of the public land within the designated Wild section and some of the public land outside of that section is excluded from the allowable cut base. Thus on those lands, harvest may only occur for salvage or to accomplish some non-timber goal such as improving wildlife habitat.

Fire

For centuries, wildfire has helped to shape and perpetuate the flora and fauna of the canyon corridor. Recently, however, man has been successful in reducing the annual number of fires and acres burned. This exclusion of fire from the ecosystem is causing subtle changes in its biology. Continued exclusion of fire will result in a heavy fuel buildup in some areas, increasing the risk of catastrophic burns of a large and costly nature. These man induced influences to the ecosystem have produced significant biological changes.

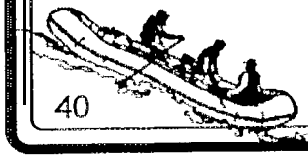
Fire management is the protection of resources from fire and the use of fire to help meet land management objectives. Fire protection includes prevention, pre-suppression, suppression and fuel management. The use of fire involves using prescription to protect, maintain or enhance resources. A prescription fire is one that is burning under a predetermined set of fuel, weather, and topographic conditions. It is permitted to burn under surveillance to produce predetermined, beneficial effects.

The current fire management policy is to provide well planned and executed fire protection, and fire use programs. Activities must be cost effective, responsive to land and resource management goals and objectives. Fire management has changed from simply putting all fires out as fast as possible to that of evaluating the potential benefits and consequences of each fire. Fires that complement land management goals and objectives may be permitted to burn in areas with approved fire management plans.

Minerals/Mining

There is no evidence of locatable mineral resources in the canyon, nor is there history of mining activity other than early panning for gold.

This portion of the Wallowa/Grande Ronde River flows through the Grande Ronde lignite field. The lignite occurs within the sedimentary interbeds which are located between the Columbia River basalt flows. The river has eroded through the lignite deposits. The lignite seams are not visible in the Canyon walls. However the lignite probably is located along the edge of some areas within management plan boundary.



The lignite field extends from northern Union County on into northwestern Wallowa County, Oregon and on into Asotin County, Washington and is the most extensive lignite field in Oregon. Within Oregon, a very preliminary estimate calculated that 1.9 billion tons of low quality lignite averaging about 4500 British thermal units may occur within the Grande Ronde lignite field. However, extensive drilling in the area immediately east of the corridor has shown the lignite seams to be discontinuous, extremely variable in depth and thickness and overlain with hard layers of basalt. This area is also prospectively valuable for oil and gas.

No oil and gas lease applications or valid mining claims involve BLM or National Forest system lands.

Communities/Utilities/Transportation

The rural communities of Minam and Troy in Oregon, and Boggan's and Heller Bar in Washington adjoin the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers.

The rural community of Minam is at the beginning of the corridor and includes a motel, general store, old school house (used as a residence), some livestock sheds and corrals, a power substation and powerlines, railroad, public paved highway, bridge, and other sections of road.

From Minam, the next two miles downstream on the left bank is the Minam State Recreation Area, a public recreation area with camping, picnicking and rest-rooms.

The Union Pacific railroad line from Elgin to the Wallowa Valley parallels the river on the right bank, the full length of the Wallowa section. There are several old logging roads northeast in the corridor along with a powerline right-of-way. There is an abandoned ranch house with a corral and two cabins used in conjunction with ranching or logging operations, plus a railroad bridge near the south end at Rondowa.

From Rondowa to Wildcat Creek is largely public land in federal and state ownership. The first 1½ miles, however, is private and includes logging roads. Seventeen of the twenty-eight miles of river in this section are in the Umatilla and Wallowa-Whitman National Forests and are used exclusively for recreation and scenic viewing. The National Forest segment has never been roaded or logged, although it has had a history of large fires over the years, the last one being the Ward Canyon fire in 1989 which burned several thousand acres on both sides of the canyon.

Below the National Forest boundary the canyon opens up slightly, and is owned and managed by private entities, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Evidence of existing and former homesteads are detectable but not readily visible as far as Wildcat Creek. Much of the area is grazed by livestock and there is a limited amount of timber harvest and forest reproduction.

The ODFW manages several miles of the left bank, the Lower Wenaha Wildlife Management Area, for large game animals; primarily elk and deer. Private lands in this section are used mostly for cattle ranching. The BLM leases some land for grazing, but there is no timber harvest on public land within the canyon. BLM land on the north side of the river, contiguous with the lower Wenaha Wildlife Management Area, is managed by ODFW for wildlife purposes.

Land use in the lower river section is mostly agricultural including farmstead, grazing and hay production. A number of ranches use water from the Grande Ronde to irrigate hay fields and water livestock.

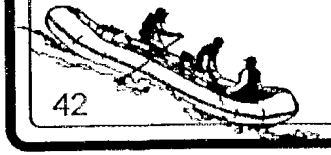
About one mile below the Powwatka Bridge, astraddle a channel along the left bank, is a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service experimental facility. It was used to experiment with directing migrating fish away from hydroelectric spillways and turbines. The facility has not been used since 1982.

The rural community of Troy in this section has several residences, general store, service station, tavern and motel occupying the townsite on the left bank, plus a school and residences on the right bank.

The river in this segment is crossed by two bridges and several utility lines, and is paralleled by a road for 14 miles to Boggan's Oasis. There are several ranch operations with associated facilities along this entire segment.

Below Boggan's Oasis and State Highway 129, the river corridor is accessed by county and private roads near Shumaker's Grade. No other access exists until the county road near the Narrows, approximately four miles upstream from Heller Bar. From the county bridge at the head of Joseph Canyon to the Snake River, the road parallels the Grande Ronde and supports a number of residences. This segment also contains utility lines, both above and below ground.

Signing for land ownership, geographic names, locations of public facilities, etc. is generally lacking. Numerous "NO TRESPASSING" signs occur.



CHAPTER 3 -
MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

Management Objectives

Management objectives are identified by river segment and were developed through a seriesof public meetings with the assistance of three Citizen Ad Hoc teams.

- Wallowa River Segment - Recognize that the Wallowa River Canyon is a multiple use corridor and provides a transitional gateway to the Wild and Scenic Grande Ronde River. The objective is to protect and/or enhance the current quality and balance of the physical, social, economic, cultural, and other special values that give the free flowing Wallowa River its unique character.

As a "study river", protect river values so that eligibility and suitability and suitability for National classification is retained until the classification issue is resolved.

- Grande Ronde Wild and Scenic River Segment - Protect and/or enhance the outstandingly remarkable values identified in the Congressional Record. Maintain and/or enhance the physical, biological, social, economic, cultural, and other special qualities that give the free-flowing Grande Ronde River its unique character. Recognize the validity and importance of existing private land uses while protecting and enhancing the natural and cultural resources that are shared with adjacent public lands. The management plan shall reflect the different mix of uses, ownership and development on each segment.

Rondowa to National Forest Boundary (Recreational Classification)

- Mostly private land.
- Historically managed for commodity production.
- Provides access to the wild section.

National Forest Boundary to Wildcat Creek (Wild Classification)

Mostly public land.
Relatively primitive and undeveloped.

Wildcat to Stateline (Recreational Classification)

Mostly private.
Includes a rural community & river residences.
Supports broad spectrum of public and private uses.
Includes the Recreation Section of the Wenaha Wild and Scenic River.

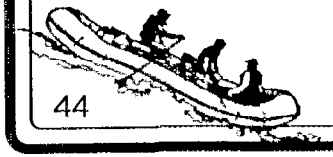
-Grande Ronde River Washington Segment- The BLM has the responsibility to manage the recreation use of the Grande Ronde River the Oregon/ Washington Stateline, to Heller Bar on the Snake River in Washington. The intent of this planning effort, within the State of Washington, is to develop a recreation management plan, both process and product, for public lands and recommend guidelines on private land that are consistent with, and contribute to, plans developed by state and local agencies, resulting in a cooperative management environment whereby all benefit, including resources

Management Constraints

Factors which, because of law, regulation, policy, or circumstance influence the development of this river management plan are as follows:

1. The rivers corridor is within two states and three counties resulting in multiple jurisdictions.

2. The first segment (Wallowa River) is designated a Study River, the second segment (Grande Ronde River) is designated as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, and the third segment (Grande Ronde River) is not identified under national legislation.



3. The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act prohibits condemnation of private land for fee title, as the rivers corridor is in over 50 percent public ownership (Section 1277(b)).

4. The Oregon segment is under the Oregon State Scenic Waterways program and the Washington segment is under the Asotin County Shoreline Program.

5. There are two federal agencies and five state agencies with land management responsibility in the 90 mile corridor.

6. Vehicle access to the Oregon segment is limited above Mud Creek. While below Mud Creek, vehicle access is abundant.

7. Both federal and state listed sensitive, threatened, and endangered plant and animal species are present within the corridor.

8. Many significant historic and prehistoric sites exist within the canyon complex.

9. Requirements of rural communities of Minam, Troy, Boggan's, and Heller Bar.

10. The river corridor supports year round recreational opportunities.

11. Multi-resource activities are prevalent within the canyon corridor.

12. Approximately 38 percent of the corridor is in private ownership.

13. One Indian Nation, the Nez Perce Tribe has treaty rights within the corridor.

Issues

The Oregon and Washington citizens Ad-Hoc teams spent many hours developing broad issue categories developed from issues identified at 16 public scoping meetings. The recognition and resolution of important issues is the key to successful planning and management. This section identifies critical issues to be considered in the alternatives and addresses program emphasis related to river planning, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, the State Scenic Waterway Act, and the Asotin County Shoreline Program. These issues are carried forward throughout this document for alternative development and analysis.

Results of public involvement form the basis for identification and development of key issues. Analysis of the comment showed a spectrum of views on management of the Wild and Scenic Rivers. Differences in perspectives were expected due to the wide diversity of agencies, Indian tribes, groups, and individuals interested and involved in the planning effort.

Two broad themes emerged from the public comment and underlie the identification of the issues. One body of interested citizens tended to emphasize protection and enhancement of the free flowing character and ORVs, as described under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Acts. These groups and individuals expressed concerns about providing for water related recreation experiences, allowing access to these opportunities, enhancing the fisheries resources, protecting the scenic, and wildlife resource and providing for diversity. Many of these people support activities that enhance supplies of cool, clean water, river corridor easements for improved public access, recreation opportunities, cultural resource protection, vegetative practices that maintain or support wildlife, scenery, and riparian habitats. They see a need for management of the river corridor and surrounding lands in the Wild and Scenic River section to minimize development and commodity activities while allowing for more natural processes.

Another body of concerned groups and individuals focused on the potential impacts that river management may have on opportunities to use lands and resources. They expressed concerns that undue constraints or restrictions resulting from Wild and Scenic River management direction prohibit, reduce, or substantially change a variety of ongoing activities. These include timber harvest (timber supply reductions), livestock grazing, agricultural practices in surrounding or upstream areas, mineral extractions, water use and allocation, use of land for transportation and utility corridors and other activities. Many local landowners and others were concerned about landowner rights such as the ability to develop and manage private property, land acquisitions, water

rights, direct impacts to private lands from recreationists and others, and additional access provisions. Many saw a direct or implied threat to their traditional life-styles and way of life, to the economic well being of individuals, and viability of communities, and to the economic and social values of the region. Most of these people support options that maintain or enhance traditional commodity uses; they want to minimize impacts to economic and social outputs and private land uses.

Wallowa River (Study River Segment)

Issue1 - Forestry

River management may limit timber management options and opportunities. A significant portion of the Wallowa River Corridor is commercial timberland and as such is capable of providing an economic return to the landowner from timber management. Additionally, management actions taken in the Corridor can have an impact on the health of adjoining timber, either positive or negative.

Although the amount of timber and timberland in the Corridor is relatively low, it has a cumulative impact on the overall timber supply in the local market area. The ability to continue to manage their lands in an economically efficient manner is of prime concern to the affected landowners.

Issue2 - Fish/Wildlife

River management could affect anadromous and resident fish species; primarily migration and rearing areas for anadromous fish, and spawning and rearing areas for resident fish. Additionally Howard Creek, a major tributary entering the Wallowa River from the east, provides valuable spawning habitat for summer steelhead. The Spring Chinook salmon which use this river segment, was recommended by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) for listing as threatened and endangered species. They are currently listed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and are under agency guidelines for Threatened, Endangered and Sensitive species.

A year-round supply of clean, cool water is required to support healthy fish populations. Numerous activities inside and outside the corridor could have an impact on both water quality, and anadromous and resident fish populations.

River management could affect options for management of numerous game and nongame species. Of particular interest are big game species, primarily mule deer and Rocky Mountain elk and their respective wintering habitats. Additionally, numerous species of furbearers (e.g., beaver, otter, raccoon, etc.), nongame mammals and birds utilize the area on a year-round basis. The corridor provides valuable wintering habitat for bald eagles and nesting and rearing habitat for numerous other bird species including the Lewis' and Pileated woodpeckers. Of primary concern are the potential loss of winter hiding and thermal cover for the mule deer and Rocky Mountain elk, and snags for bald eagle perching and roosting sites. Additionally, loss of any riparian cover could have an adverse effect on a wide variety of game and nongame animals.

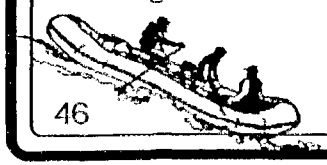
Issue 3 - Social and Economic Considerations

Changes in how the river corridor is managed can alter the mix and the scope of economic opportunities as well as the mix and magnitude of impacts on sociological values.

The economy and associated culture of the local area is primarily natural resource commodity based, e.g. Agriculture and Timber. Recreation and the Arts are a comparatively small but expanding segment of the economy. Commercial recreation, outfitters and guides, are improving local economies through their business efforts.

Issue 4 - Recreation

River management could affect recreational use of the river through use limitations, allocations, etc. Recreational use of the lower Wallowa River has a major economic, social, and biological influence on Union and Wallowa counties.



Issue 5 - Scenery

River management could affect the scenic qualities of the lower Wallowa River Canyon. Steadily increasing recreational use is already having its effect.

Issue 6 - Cultural Resources

Manage the river corridor to protect, enhance and interpret cultural resource sites in cooperation with other agencies, historical societies and the Nez Perce Tribe. Management should promote a sense of pride and stewardship of cultural resources by all users of the corridor.

Issue 7 - Livestock

River management could have an impact on livestock management options.

The proposed project area has historically been grazed by livestock and access to the river is necessary to provide a balance of grazing on the adjoining lands and maintain viable economic units.

Issue 8 - Transportation

River management could have an impact on transportation use and opportunities. The proposed project area has historically been used as a transportation route by the railroad, lumber industry, Native Americans, livestock industry, river runners, and others.

Issue 9 - Hydro-power (Water Resources)

Changes in how the river is managed may affect opportunities for hydro-power development.

Issue 10 - Landowner Rights

Changes in how the river is managed may affect land owners decisions in managing and/or developing their property.

Issue 11 - Biodiversity

River management could impact both the current and future level of biodiversity of the Wallowa River and canyon corridor. Changes in biodiversity could result from ground or vegetative alteration, recreation use, or could result from management aimed at protecting and enhancing species and community compositions and the ecologic functions.

Grande Ronde River (Wild and Scenic River Segment)

Issue 1 - Land

River management may affect the type of grazing and at what utilization levels, and may direct management systems and facilities that are appropriate to achieve desired management objectives.

River management may determine what role fire should play in achieving desired vegetative types and conditions. It may determine levels of fire control and rehabilitation, and may also determine management actions desirable to eliminate or reduce, to acceptable levels, fuel build-up and hazards that are a result of past management and/or natural catastrophic events. Complexities and consequences of boundaries and ownerships may also be addressed in relation to fire management.

Management approaches may determine tolerable levels of undesirable weeds, insects and disease.

Corridor management may affect the range of prescriptions available for timber management and the potential economic impacts of accomplishing desired conditions.

River management could affect the range of agricultural practices available and the potential economic impacts of accomplishing the desired conditions.

Management of the river corridor could affect the extraction of mineral resources.

A portion of the Grande Ronde River is encumbered with withdrawals of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). Parcels of land were withdrawn through Executive or Secretarial Orders for power site reserves in the early 1900's (1910-1946). The FERC withdrawals involve both Forest Service and/or BLM lands.

The FERC withdrawals are not segregated from mineral entry. Therefore, mining activities could potentially take place on the FERC withdrawals outside the ¼ mile wild river mineral withdrawal boundary.

The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of October 21, 1976 (FLPMA) mandated the Secretary to review existing withdrawals on lands within the National Wild and Scenic River System (TEST) and determine whether, and for how long, the continuation of the withdrawal of the land would be consistent with the statutory objectives of the TEST. The withdrawal review was scheduled for completion on October 1991. However, this review process has been extended to October 1997.

Because the Wild and Scenic River Act mandates that no construction of dams can occur within designated rivers of the system and that these rivers must remain free-flowing, the withdrawal review of the Grande Ronde system should be accelerated in order to revoke ineffective withdrawals and allow for sound management.

Issue 2 - Social

River management should strive to ensure that river users co-exist and that local residents and livelihoods remain intact. Management could protect livelihoods and landowner's rights and meet the goals of the act. Prescriptions may recognize, protect and/or compensate for loss of rights on private land.

Corridor management may provide for recreational opportunities within limitations that land ownership, access, environmental requirements and social acceptance will accommodate. Management may provide for appropriate development and still protect and/or enhance the outstandingly remarkable values.

River management may address cumulative impacts on the economic viability and way of life of people in the area, and could affect the economic and social values of the region and the country. Management could recognize and make considerations for traditional, socio-economic life-styles and address equitable distribution of opportunities among user categories.

River management could address the sociological implications of various management options and plan to accommodate unforeseen sociological impacts.

Issue 3 - Cultural/Scenery

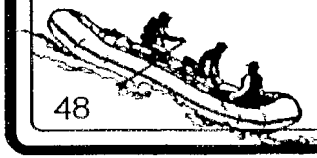
Manage the river corridor to protect, enhance and interpret cultural resource sites in cooperation with other agencies, historical societies and the Nez Perce Tribe. Management should promote a sense of pride and stewardship of cultural resources by all users of the corridor.

Visual design considerations shall be incorporated into all surface disturbing projects regardless of size or potential impact. Emphasis shall be placed on providing these inputs during the initial planning and design phase so as to minimize costly redesign and mitigation at later phases of project design and development.

Issue 4 - Water

Resource activities could cause degradation of water quality and/or quantity within the corridor. Management should look for opportunities to solve known problems and encourage actions to improve water quality and/or quantity in the corridor.

The legal considerations affecting future water appropriations within and above the Wild and Scenic Grande Ronde River depend on water rights which existed prior to designation. The Water Resources Commission and the



Oregon State Legislature have the authority to restrict certain types of water use in a given drainage or basin. These restrictions are adopted for a variety of reasons, such as protecting fish habitat or developing irrigation projects.

Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD) is evaluating flow requirements for recreation, fish and wildlife on the Grande Ronde/Wallowa River segments in Oregon. Flows needed to preserve the existing range of recreational, fish and wildlife uses are identified based on information from user guides, agency reports and expert opinions. These flows will assist the Oregon Water Resources Commission in making findings on pending applications and future water rights.

Current BLM policy in managing Federally designated Wild and Scenic Rivers is to use States' instream flow water right processes to preserve the flow-dependent values for which the river was designated. The Wild and Scenic River Act (PL 90-542) specifically reserved the minimum quantity of water necessary to fulfill the purpose(s) for which the river was designated. This Federal Reserved Water Right for the designated Grande Ronde River has a priority date of October 28, 1988, the date of designation. A Federal Reserved water right will be exercised only if Oregon's appropriative instream water right processes are inadequate to protect the designated values of the river.

Issue 5 - Biological

River management should take a holistic approach to management of the biological resources and consider implications beyond artificial boundaries. Management may foster maintenance and enhancement of fish and wildlife populations and habitats and provide options for change as new information becomes available. Corridor management may provide direction for restoration of threatened, endangered, and sensitive species and habitats, while providing for the basic ecological requirements for fish and wildlife.

Corridor management should encourage understanding and cooperation of all participants in the maintenance and enhancement of the quality of riparian areas. Management should consider options for change with the development of new information.

River management could promote a wide variety of flora and fauna species and their associated habitats without unduly risking any one native species existence. Short term management could foster long term biodiversity and productivity.

Issue 6 - Administration

River management could identify the level of control of user numbers and activities to meet the requirements and intent of the state and federal acts and management objectives. Management may ensure controls continue to be appropriate and provide for equitable distribution of the resource at all levels. Appropriate mechanisms should be in place to allow for coordination between the managing agencies.

Management within the river corridor may accommodate the concept of a viable economic unit that results in resource protection and minimizes impacts to landowners. Management could address resource protection within the corridor and impacts outside the corridor. It could also encourage management actions outside the corridor, within the basin, which help to meet the goals of the Acts.

Corridor management may determine the level of agency acquisition appropriate to accomplish the intent of the acts and management objectives.

Costs to implement river management should be responsive to meeting the intent of state and federal legislation, emergency situations (catastrophic events), and economic efficiency for the public good.

River management may contain mechanisms to respond to catastrophic events.

Management of the river corridor should include an informal process for dispute resolution.

Corridor management may provide for water right maintenance of flows sufficient to meet the purposes of the acts without impacting water rights which are protected by the acts.

River management may address the who, what, when, where, and how of law enforcement, liability, and public safety.

River administration boundaries should incorporate those values the river was designated for without unduly including areas not required to meet those values, and should be easily identified by private and public entities. Where possible, the boundaries could be common for the state and federal designations.

River management may balance the existing and future needs for utilities and transportation (including maintenance) consistent with the purposes for which the river was designated and overall management objectives.

Grande Ronde River (Washington Segment)

Issue 1 - Private Land

River Management will consider the social, economic and cultural implications on local residents and surrounding communities.

Changes in landownership will be undertaken only with the participation of willing parties, and makes no provision for private land condemnation.

Agricultural practices, water rights and the use and applications of herbicides and pesticides are, currently and will continue to be, governed by state and local regulations.

The Washington Department of Ecology (DOE), Division of Water Resources has the responsibility for managing the water resources of the State of Washington. The Principle of Prior Appropriation also applies in Washington, and includes Instream Flow Requirements (similar to instream water rights). DOE may establish Instream Flow Requirements for the Grande Ronde River (Oregon State line downstream to confluence with the Snake River). Water uses along the Grande Ronde River in Washington would be managed under these flow requirements. Present DOE policy for the Grande Ronde River in Washington currently limits withdrawals from May 1 to September 15 of each year, based on recommendations by the State Department of Fisheries.

The Washington segment of the Grande Ronde River is presently managed as a contiguous component of the Grande Ronde/Wallowa Rivers corridor, under the Baker Resource Area Resource Management Plan. State and private lands in this segment are subject to the management provisions set forth in the State of Washington and Asotin County Shoreline Program. The Washington Segment is also being considered for Wild and Scenic River designation by the Washington legislature. Designation would establish a Federal Reserved Water Right priority date for those reaches in Washington.

Management actions concerning private land are, currently and will continue to be, governed by state and local regulations.

Issue 2 - Environmental

Manage the river corridor to protect and enhance the habitats of fish and wildlife species. Cooperate with the WA & OR Departments of Fish & Wildlife in protecting and restoring habitats and populations.

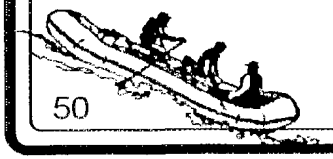
Manage the river corridor to protect and enhance the river riparian area.

Manage the river corridor to protect and enhance the river water quality to meet and/or exceed state and federal requirements in cooperation with the State of Oregon and Washington.

Identify and implement systems which provide for the removal and disposal of solid waste from the river corridor.

Identify and implement systems which control noxious weeds.

Visual resource objectives are to retain the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the characteristic landscape should be low. Management activities may be seen but should not dominate the attention of the casual observer.



River impoundments/energy diversions and developments shall comply with all Asotin County Shoreline objectives and State and Federal regulations.

Monitor and initiate programs necessary to protect and enhance identified Threatened & Endangered Species (plant & animal populations).

Assess impacts of chemical application to plant and animal populations prior to use. Integrated pest management should be encouraged as an alternative to chemical application where appropriate.

Issue 3 Public Land/Management

Develop partnerships for recreation and Resource management programs with private landowners, interested publics and all federal, state and local management agencies with jurisdictional responsibilities.

Public lands within the Washington section of the Grande Ronde River corridor should be managed to emphasize the recreational opportunities that the river provides.

Authorizations for development, construction and/or maintenance of facilities on public lands should be in compliance with visual and environmental objectives.

Develop an information and education program for all river corridor users which focuses upon minimizing user conflicts. Work with other entities to coordinate information and education materials.

Establish use regulations which address identified user conflicts.

Monitoring will be used to determine compliance with regulations and to determine if regulations are meeting the intent.

Livestock management actions should be in conformance with river management objectives within the corridor.

Plan will strive to coordinate objectives with land use management plans developed by Federal, State and County entities.

Recreation use should be consistent with management objectives and be directed toward public land opportunities.

Various public information materials will be made available and distributed based upon need and purpose.

Monitoring programs will be established to determine appropriate levels of use, resource protection, and/or enhancement within the corridor consistent with overall management objectives.

Management actions must consider and document the social, economic and cultural implications on local residents and surrounding communities.

Issue 4 - Recreation

River management will consider the social, economic, and cultural implications on local residents and surrounding communities.

The lower Grande Ronde River (Washington Section) should be managed to provide (family) recreation opportunities within the limitations that land ownership, access, and environmental requirements will accommodate.

Manage recreation use in keeping with the social, environmental, and physical capacity of the river corridor to sustain a high quality experience.

Develop an information and education program for users.

Access should be commensurate with the use levels recommended by the management plan.

Carrying capacities will be identified for recreation use.

Establish environmental, social, and physical monitoring studies to determine impacts of human use on river resources.

Develop, maintain, or improve recreation facilities on public lands necessary for resource protection and recreation management consistent with a overall management objectives.

Private recreation facilities development should be encouraged to be in compliance with overall recreation management objectives.

Issue 5 - Cultural

Manage the river corridor to protect, enhance and interpret appropriate cultural resource sites in cooperation with applicable agencies, historical societies and the Nez Perce Tribe.

Preservation of cultural and traditional use sites, and treaty rights of the Nez Perce Tribe.

Desired Future Condition of River Corridors

Scenery

The desired future condition of the Wild and Scenic River Corridor is one in which the existing natural appearing landscape condition is maintained. With no scheduled harvest from the public lands in the corridor the mature, old-growth timber type that now predominates on the public lands in the River Corridor will remain essentially unchanged except for the slow process of natural succession, and/or unforeseen natural catastrophic event. Travelers in the corridor, be they motorists on roadways, or float boaters or anglers on the river, will be able to continue to observe the waters of the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers framed by mostly mature stands of mixed conifers, in the forested sections and open vegetative mosaics in the more arid lower elevations. In selected areas vistas of the river will be enhanced while in others, growth of riparian vegetation will obscure roads and trails. Of the lands within the Wild and Scenic River Corridor which are privately owned, disturbances may be apparent, but do not dominate the landscape. Old disturbances will become less noticeable however, as revegetation and forest regrowth occurs. Future disturbances will be less noticeable as natural screening is left.

Recreation

The traditional boating experience will remain much the same as in 1993. Management techniques will be utilized to insure that use does not degrade ORVs. Boating use is expected to be relatively heavy on weekends and holidays, but relatively quiet during the week. Boaters who choose to float during the week will experience relative solitude, and will have minimal encounters with other floaters. Boaters who choose to float on weekends and holidays will experience more of a social setting, with some congestion at put-ins and take-outs and more encounters with other floaters on the river.

Improvements of staging areas will provide the visitor with clean, modern facilities which blend with the natural setting. Special emphasis will be placed on barrier free access. Restroom facilities will be present at all staging areas so that proper sanitation is maintained. New facilities built in response to visitor convenience will be rare in the corridor. The basic natural character of the river corridor will not be compromised by any new developments.

River recreational use levels will continue to rise modestly, but management actions will maintain the quality of the river experience.

Programs to educate river users, formal and informal interpretive programs at boat launches, river patrols, improved signing and boundary marking, and agency "presence" at landings will reduce problems such as congestion and litter. Whitewater boating will take place as safely as possible, given the inherent risks of the activity, with a minimum of overt regulation. When accidents do occur, search and rescue operations will be swift and efficient. Boaters will be encouraged to respect the rights of private landowners and not trespass or unnecessarily disturb landowners.

If/when use levels continue to rise and it becomes necessary to further regulate river use to protect the quality of the experience, a program of "staged" management actions will be implemented in response to the amount and type of use. These actions are identified on the monitoring Table 14. If/when use levels dictate that additional use limitations are necessary to protect the quality of the recreational experience, a use allocation (use rationing) system will be developed with the direct help and participation of the public and affected user groups.

Anglers will continue to enjoy a high quality fishing experience on the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers. During the week and in late summer there could be many opportunities for a pristine angling experience with few boater encounters. Greater education efforts regarding proper fishing etiquette will help to alleviate conflicts between increasing numbers of anglers vying for a limited number of fishing holes.

Overland access to the riverbank in the wild and natural sections will be most difficult. Floaters will not need to compete with trail users for available campsites.

Fisheries

The goals and priorities of NMFS, ODFW, WDF, and tribal governments, will be accomplished, including: increasing natural production of spring Chinook, and fall Chinook, increasing the survival of downstream migrating Chinook, maintaining high numbers of steelhead and wild trout, and monitoring the production of wild fish.

Fish habitat will continue to improve with the drainage-wide application of state-of-the-art riparian guidelines, natural recruitment of large woody material, and fish habitat enhancement projects.

The adequate protection, enhancement, and restoration of anadromous fish habitat, along with an adequate return of adults to spawning areas, will produce sustained high numbers of smolt (young salmon). The adequate protection and restoration of resident fish habitat will result in healthy resident fish populations.

Biodiversity

Ponderosa pine sites will be managed to maintain open stands of large old pine trees. Douglas fir and/or grand fir sites will be managed to maintain old growth characteristics with special considerations for reducing catastrophic fire potential. The canopy will provide shading of tributary streams running through the corridor and partial shading of the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers. With limited timber harvest on the Federal lands in the corridor, successional changes over a long period of time can be expected to alter the species composition of the forest stand somewhat. However, a mature forest type will continue to provide habitat and cover for old-growth dependent species. When and if catastrophic events such as the Ward Canyon Fire occur in the corridor, these successional changes could occur much more rapidly, and the mature forest type may be partially or completely converted to an early successional stage. A quality habitat will be available for all threatened, endangered or sensitive species known to use the corridor.

Habitats for wildlife species dependent on mature and old-growth stands will be maintained within the river corridor. The age-class diversity and distribution of stands will improve with rotation harvest methods on private lands within the corridor. These changes will improve foraging habitat for deer and elk. Habitats will be protected and populations of threatened, endangered, or sensitive plant and animal species will be maintained. Wetlands and riparian areas will be functioning effectively. Unusual plant and animal communities which contribute to any special biological diversity of the area will be identified prior to any ground-disturbing activity and be protected.

Cultural

Prehistoric cultural resources will be maintained or enhanced, and will not be degraded as a result of human activity. Cultural sites will remain stable, and where necessary, stabilization measures will be taken to prevent deterioration caused by natural processes. Vandalism will be deterred by an increased management presence, and by and expanded interpretive and educational effort.

Water Quality and Quantity

Baseline data on the water quality of the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers will be pursued through a multi-agency (State and Federal) long-term water quality monitoring program. Water quality will be maintained or improved, as riparian vegetation throughout the watershed continues to develop. Less sedimentation will enter the corridor as past road and harvest units revegetate and stabilize, and new projects and timber harvest follow state-of-the-art riparian guidelines.

The water quality, which is a major contributor to the ORV's of scenery, fishery, wildlife, and recreation will remain high. The river will remain in a free-flowing, stable condition with reliable flows and with water quality levels at least as high as they were when the river was designated. Water quality and yield will not be reduced or degraded as a result of human activity, and will improve as riparian areas on disturbed sites throughout the basin revegetate, and as new management practices on lands outside the corridor give greater protection to these riparian areas.

Private Property

Private property rights will be respected. A proactive user education program will create greater awareness by recreation users of landowners concerns and rights, and will result in a reduction in the number of conflicts between user groups and private landowners.

Local landowners benefit economically by the presence of the river. Economic diversity is provided to the local communities.

Interagency Cooperation

Cooperation between the Bureau of Land Management, the US Forest Service, State agencies, and county governments will continue, resulting in efficient, consistent management of the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers Corridor. The public will be given a meaningful opportunity to participate in decision making that affects the management of the river. Organized user groups will be self-policing, and greater use of partnerships between these groups and the government agencies will occur.

Motorized Vehicles

Motorized vehicle use on the roads and trails within the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Corridor will be confined to those identified as open for that use (refer to maps 1 through 18).

Motorized water craft will be allowed from Minam to the Forest Service boundary 1.5 miles below Rondowa, a total of 11.5 miles. Motorized watercraft will not be allowed from the National Forest boundary 1.5 miles below Rondowa to the Oregon/Washington stateline, a total of 42.3 miles. Motorized watercraft will then be allowed from the Oregon/Washington stateline to Heller Bar, Washington, a total of 36.2 miles.

Safety

Safe use within the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers Corridor will be a paramount objective. While it's realized that recreational pursuits that occur in the river corridor have certain inherent safety risks, everything reasonable will be done to provide the visitor a safe recreational experience. Facilities will be designed and/or maintained with user safety in mind. Opportunities to educate visitors on safe use of the river will be continued.

River

The river system will remain free-flowing with a stable, functioning ecosystem both above and below ground level. Water quality will be stable throughout the year, as it was when the river was designated. Stream and river segments will have a natural appearance. Human-made shoreline facilities will remain relatively inconspicuous to boaters on the river, and there will be an absence of litter, both in the river and on the banks.

River channel structure and diversity will improve as a result of naturally fallen large woody debris that has been left in place, and fish habitat rehabilitation projects.

Monitoring Standards

Monitoring and evaluation of the plan will be based on concepts taken from the Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC) process. LAC is a process for establishing acceptable and appropriate conditions, which can then be monitored to help management strategies for the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers. LAC is based on the premise that change to the ecological and social conditions of an area will occur as a result of natural and human factors. The goal of

management is to keep the character and rate of change due to human factors within acceptable levels and consistent with the objectives of the plan.

The primary emphasis of the LAC system is on the conditions desired, rather than on how much use or abuse an area can tolerate. The management challenge is not one of how to prevent any human-induced change in the planning area, but rather one of deciding what changes should occur, how much change will be allowed, what management actions are needed to guide and control it and how the managing agencies will know when the established limits are being or have been reached.

Once in place and functioning, the mechanics of the LAC system can alert the managing agencies to unacceptable change in the Wallowa/Grande Ronde River Canyon before it is too late to react. For each river value to be monitored, one or more key indicators are selected which allow the managing agencies to keep their "thumb on the pulse" of that aspect of the ecosystem or social setting. For each key indicator, a standard is set. This is the threshold value which determines the amount of change that is either desired or will be accepted. The purpose of the indicators and standards is to provide managers with a tool to determine if the resource values and opportunities they are trying to mange for are actually being provided. The standards serve as "triggers" which cause predetermined management actions to be implemented by the managing agencies when the limit is being approached.

Monitoring will be the foundation for the long-term protection and enhancement of the outstandingly remarkable values and primary river-related values in the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers Canyon. It must, however, be flexible enough to allow for unique site specific situations, provide ample opportunity for public involvement and be cost effective.

1. Visual Resource Management (Scenic Values)

Assigning values to visual resources is a subjective process. The phrase, "beauty is in the eye of the beholder," is often quoted to emphasize the subjectivity in determining scenic values. Yet, researchers have found consistent levels of agreement among individuals asked to evaluate visual quality. Designers have used the basic design elements of form, line, color, and texture to describe and evaluate landscapes for hundreds of years. Modifications in a landscape which repeat the landscape's basic elements are said to be in harmony with their surroundings. Modifications which do not harmonize often look out of place and are said to contrast or stand out in unpleasing ways. These basic design elements and concepts have been incorporated into the Visual Resource Management (VRM) system to lend objectivity, integrity, and consistency to the process. The VRM system is designed to separate the existing landscape and the proposed project into their features and elements and to compare each part against the other in order to identify those parts which are not in harmony. Then, ways are sought to bring them back into harmony. An understanding of basic design principles and how they relate to the appearance of projects is essential in order to minimize visual impacts. Refer to Table 14 for VRM components for monitoring to be conducted within the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers Corridor.

2. Recreation and Facility Management

Recreation management actions shall focus on providing resource protection, monitoring, visitor services, and essential recreation facilities to ensure the long-term use and enjoyment of the land and water resources found, within the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers Corridor. Facilities important to the protection and enjoyment of recreation resources shall be provided. Refer to Table 14 for recreation activity components for monitoring to be conducted within the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers Corridor.

3. Fish and Wildlife Management

Monitoring is a key tool in achieving objectives of the agencies fish and wildlife programs. The primary purpose of monitoring is to gather information on the distribution, condition, trend, and utilization of fish and wildlife habitat. Monitoring ensures that adequate baseline resource data is available to make the required determinations and resource management decisions. Refer to Table 14 for fish and wildlife habitat components for monitoring to be conducted within the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers Corridor.

Establish baseline monitoring for T and E Species to assist in accomplishing the recovery plan goals.

4. *Cultural Resource Management*

Development projects that may result in ground disturbance or have the potential to effect cultural resources will be inventoried and evaluated for possible impact to recorded or potentially present historic and prehistoric properties. Recorded cultural sites and burials would be monitored on a regular basis using field checking and photo-documentation to document condition and trend, causes of disturbance, corrective measures required, and to evaluate potential adverse effects from human or natural processes upon site integrity. Mitigating measures will be implemented to stabilize and maintain site integrity. Refer to Table 14 for cultural resource monitoring to be conducted within the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers Corridor.

5. *Riparian Management*

Riparian monitoring and evaluations will be scheduled to determine the effectiveness of resource actions toward achieving the goals and objectives established in the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers Management Plan. Riparian recovery plans and actions will be monitored to assure an upward and/or stable trend in stream riparian condition, and to evaluate the effectiveness of stream improvements. Monitoring will include trend photographs, biotic condition index, vegetation studies, and fish census. Refer to Table 14 for riparian monitoring to be conducted within the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers Corridor.

6. *Water Quality Management*

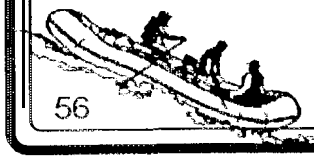
Short-term and historical water quality data is considered sparse to nonexistent for virtually all of the Grande Ronde River drainage system. Dependent upon funding availability, public land adjacent to and along river corridors will be monitored to evaluate current Best Management Practices associated with rangeland and riparian area objectives. Coupled with this monitoring, data from long-term continuous flow gaging stations located in the main channels of the river system are recommended for water quantity and possible quality information. Long-term streamflow stations should be established (dependent upon accessibility) in areas requiring flow information.

The Bureau's primary charge is to manage, maintain, protect, and/or improve existing habitat on public lands for multiple and future uses. Monitoring these lands utilizing Best Management Practices consists of identifying existing water and vegetation conditions in and along riparian and stream channel systems throughout rangeland and wildlife habitat. Currently riparian habitat areas are monitored on a frequency based on an allotment review cycle of five or ten years dependent upon the management category in which the allotment is placed. Additional monitoring may be conducted annually if required and funding is available.

BLM minimum monitoring standards for riparian and stream channel areas consist of either photo points or low level aerial photography with an option for recording riparian inventory site forms. Additional monitoring with available funding includes line-intercept vegetation transects, stream cross-sections and profiles, macroinvertebrate sampling with water quality and quantity and fish habitat inventories where fish are known to exist. Basic water quality field sampling constituents consist of conductivity, water and air temperature, time of day, pH, sulfate, nitrate, dissolved oxygen, turbidity, hardness, and alkalinity. Other constituents may be sampled as required by monitoring needs.

Monitoring for fish populations and habitat within the Grande Ronde and it's tributaries will be more intense and frequent than on most other riparian areas within the district because of the potential influence they may have on federally listed fish species. The BLM role as habitat manager for federally listed species requires this effort. This level of monitoring is quite different than for other non-listed species which are the province of the state.

This data will help to identify, describe and indicate existing vegetation condition and trends on public lands at established sites. This style of monitoring will be implemented on lands adjacent to river corridors with riparian habitat. Site locations will be dependent upon data required and accessibility. Additional sites and standards for more detailed data will depend upon funding and staff availability. Streams impacted by nonpoint



source pollution that affect water quality or quantity are considered a high priority area for photo sites and monitoring establishment.

Table 14, the Monitoring Table, identifies the ORVs to be protected and/or enhanced and the other critical resource values to be appropriately managed; the key indicators that will be monitored for each resource value to see if change is occurring; the standard for each key indicator that will be managed for and when exceeded will cause additional management actions to occur; and the type of monitoring required.

The last column identifies these management actions that will be implemented as required to protect and/or enhance the resource values if the standards are not being met. These are management actions that are in addition to those identified in the management action section. They will only be implemented if standards are not being achieved, and then will only be phased in from the least restrictive to the most restrictive as necessary.

Design Standards

There are design procedures and management directions or actions common to all activities within the river corridor. These management directions must conform with the requirements of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, the Oregon State Scenic Waterway Act and Washington (Asotin County) Shoreline Act. These procedures are as follows.

Design features to be incorporated into specific surface disturbing activity plans and authorizations include: scalping, saving, and respreading available top soil; regrading and resloping to natural contours; reestablish appropriate stabilizing vegetation; and water erosion and runoff prevention measures, such as waterbars, benches, and drainage systems. Management activities in riparian areas will be designed to protect and/or enhance riparian values; roads and utility corridors will avoid riparian zones.

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW), Washington Department of Wildlife (WDW), Washington Department of Fisheries (WDF), and/or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife (USFWS) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) will be consulted before implementing projects that could affect habitat for Threatened and/or Endangered (T&E) or sensitive species. Should potential adverse impacts on T&E species be determined through the agencies biological assessment process, formal consultations with USFWS or NMFS will be initiated under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. Technical assistance will be requested from the USFWS and NMFS for Candidate 1 and 2 species and for agency sensitive species. Coordinate with the Oregon and Washington Departments of Agriculture for state listed or candidate plant species, and with ODFW, WDF, and WDW for state listed fish and wildlife species.

Coordination with ODFW, WDW, and WDF will be completed prior to undertaking construction, and/or surface disturbing activities in high value wildlife and fisheries habitat. In crucial wildlife habitats construction and maintenance work will be designed to avoid or minimize disturbance to wildlife. Areas disturbed during project construction will be reseeded with a mixture of grasses, forbs and shrubs to meet site specific needs and habitat requirements. All new fences will be built to standard agency wildlife specifications. Management actions will be avoided which may result in disturbance and adverse impacts on crucial wildlife and/or plant habitat for threatened, endangered, candidate, state listed and sensitive species. Inventories will be conducted to determine if any of those species exist on proposed areas of development.

Livestock grazing on public lands immediately adjacent to the Grande Ronde River will be excluded from August 1 through April 1 (spawning through emergence) of the Snake River Chinook salmon.

No camping will be allowed below the high water line of the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers.

The agencies will continue to inventory lands on the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers for historic and archaeological resources and will evaluate the significance of known historic and archaeological sites. The BLM will consult with the Nez Perce tribe to identify and protect traditional use locations. Archaeological sites threatened by human or naturally caused erosion or deterioration will be protected by restricting uses, physical protection measures and fencing or signing, and stabilization. Camping and/

or grazing will be restricted or excluded as necessary to protect cultural resource sites from damage. If stabilization or physical protection is not feasible or effective, mitigation through data recovery may be implemented.

To discourage vandalism and unauthorized uses, patrol and surveillance of significant sites will be conducted on a regular basis. Implementation of a protection and interpretive signing program will be guided and restricted as necessary to protect and secure site locations from unauthorized or illegal activities.

Prior to the implementation of any surface-disturbing project or plan, inventories and evaluation will be undertaken to identify, protect, and evaluate the significance of cultural resources which may be affected by the project. Projects include maintenance, construction, and resource use activities. Cultural resource sites will be evaluated against criteria for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places and traditional uses of importance to affected tribes. The agencies will consult with the Nez Perce tribe in early planning stages of projects. Decisions about the treatment of cultural resource sites will be made in consultation with the Oregon and Washington State Historic Preservation Offices and the Nez Perce tribe.

In most cases, sites located within a project area will be avoided by project redesign, relocation, or stipulations and limitations. Where relocation is not possible, the project may be canceled or mitigation of project effects through documentation and data recovery may be necessary. The BLM would ensure that information gained from inventories for cultural resources would be recorded and shared as needed with the tribes. Information on the location of cultural resources would be secured and confidential to protect the resource from unauthorized use or illegal activities.

Information and education programs will be developed to assist resource users in the safe, sanitary, and low impact use of the canyon corridor.

Resource Management

Wallowa River (Study River Segment)

The Omnibus Oregon Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1988 designated ten miles of the lower Wallowa River, from its confluence with the Minam River to its confluence with the Grande Ronde River, for potential addition to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers system. Congress assigned the study of this river segment to the Secretary of Agriculture. For the purposes of the study, the Forest Service, as the lead agency, has established a study area generally ¼ mile wide on either side of the river. Maps 1 and 2 show the study area.

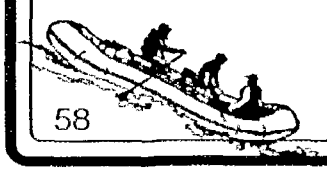
The lower Wallowa River from its confluence with the Minam River, to its confluence with the Grande Ronde River is designated a State Scenic Waterway. Oregon State Parks, is responsible for administering the Oregon State Scenic Waterway Program and participated in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Study of the lower Wallowa River.

To support river management of the entire corridor, the Wallowa segment is included with the Grande Ronde to produce one management plan for the 90 mile water body. This is separate from the eligibility/suitability study being conducted by the Forest Service.

The Wallowa River Citizens Ad Hoc Team Vision Statement for the Management of the Wallowa River Segment is as follows:

"We recognize that the Wallowa River Canyon is a multiple use corridor and provides a transition/gateway to the Wild and Scenic Grande Ronde River. Our vision is to protect and enhance the current values that give the free-flowing Wallowa River its unique character."

To protect and enhance those values on the Wallowa River that are being considered under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and fully recognizing private landowner interests and rights consistent with Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, the following actions will be taken.



Scenery

- Retain the existing character of the landscape with only a low level of change. Activities may be seen but should not attract attention. Management public lands as a visual resource management class II.

Recreation

- Construct a visitor contact station and administrative facilities at Minam to provide for a focal point for management and serve as the principal access point for the 90 mile corridor.

- Improve river staging areas at Minam to increase convenience for river users.

- Open to both motorized and non-motorized watercraft with certain restrictions as determined by monitoring studies on timing, size, and number of trips, for motorized craft. Motorized and mechanized equipment is allowed for administrative and emergency use.

- Develop and utilize a work group to assist in the implementation of the plan and the formulation of recreation monitoring indicators and standards utilizing the limits of acceptable change process.

- Voluntary river registration until monitoring studies determines that indicator standards are not being met, then a sequence of staged management actions as identified on the monitoring table will be implemented.

- A special use authorization will be required for all commercial recreation services. A single outfitter-guide permit will be issued which authorizes use on all administrative jurisdictions.

- Outfitter-guide permits will remain open to applicants who have basic technical and financial capability, providing they follow the prescribed administrative process. Permits will not be reissued to permit holders who receive an "unacceptable" performance rating by the land manager.

- Develop intensive visitor awareness of river resources and user interrelationships.

- Require mandatory use of fire pans and pack out of human waste.

- Trail construction, reconstruction and maintenance will be encouraged along the slopes above the river. Trails and trail use will be discouraged as access to the river. Recreation trails will not be constructed within 500 vertical feet of the river, unless the horizontal distance is a minimum of one mile.

- Signing should enable floaters to orient themselves on maps. Public land and facilities should be clearly marked. Geographic features identified as a convenience to users and to instill confidence in orienteering skills.

Fish and Wildlife

- Minimize new road development on public land within the river corridor.

- Minimize human impacts in wildlife winter ranges through public awareness programs.

- Maintain or create snags within 1/4 mile each side of the river to accommodate winter roosting needs of bald eagles.

- Maintain cooperative agreements between ODFW and BLM.

- Maintain and/or improve fisheries habitat through instream and riparian enhancement projects.

Cultural Resources

- Inventory and evaluate cultural resources on public land in the river corridor.

- Conduct periodic patrols for all cultural resources, and install cultural resource protection signs to discourage vandalism of cultural properties.

- Conduct bi-monthly patrols of sensitive cultural resources located in high recreation use areas.
- Develop public awareness program, including signs and brochures, for the protection and interpretation of cultural resources.
- Conduct annual monitoring of sensitive cultural resources located in high recreation use areas.
- Inventory, protect and enhance significant cultural resource and traditional use locations through administrative or physical protection measures, stabilization or documentation.
- Complete baseline documentation of sensitive cultural resource sites.
- Restrict or exclude camping or livestock grazing as necessary to protect cultural resource sites.

Biodiversity

- Management actions within the corridor will protect or enhance existing flora, fauna, and physical elements.

Water Resources

- Maintain the free flowing character of the Wallowa River.
- Continue utilization of river water for domestic and agricultural purposes, insofar as they do not conflict with the interim protection of river values.
- Cooperate in developing a water monitoring program to assist agencies and private land owners in meeting water quality and quantity requirements for fish and wildlife resources and domestic and recreation uses.
- Restrict resource activities on public land within the corridor watershed that would have the potential to degrade water quality or quantity of the Wallowa River.

Landowner Rights

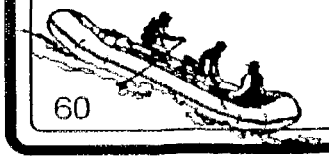
- Continue existing uses of private land within the corridor as directed by Union County and Wallowa County zoning and the Oregon State Scenic Waterway Administrative Rules (refer to Chapter 4).
- Private party initiated easement/acquisition proposals will be processed on a priority basis.

Transportation

- Allow for the continued maintenance of transportation systems, insofar as they do not conflict with interim protection of river values.
- New transportation requirements on private land will meet Oregon State Scenic Waterway guidelines within the corridor. New roads for the purpose of timber harvest will be closed as necessary to protect wildlife, soils, or watershed values.
- Screen new roads from view of the river, as much as possible, utilizing vegetation and topography.

Forestry

- Optimize wood fiber outputs on all available moderate or highly capable private land within State Scenic Waterway guidelines.
- Utilize harvest prescriptions which have low visual impact, yet favor fire tolerant species, by emulation the mosaic character of the natural landscape.
- Keep large old trees in the stands.



- Reduce current stand densities as needed to maintain stand vigor, insofar as this does not conflict with interim protection of river values.

LIVESTOCK

- On public land, manage livestock grazing through season of use, and utilization levels to achieve the monitoring standard identified on Table 14.

- Encourage cooperative projects on all riparian rehabilitation projects regardless of land ownership. Restrict livestock for three to five growing seasons, following vegetative enhancement treatments.

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS

- Develop management actions that maintain existing rural life-styles of corridor residents.

- Maintain prescribed levels of resource utilizations in the agricultural and forest industries.

- Maintain physical resources necessary for the continuation of recreation based industries.

- Assist Union and Wallowa Counties in broadening the economic bases of various communities through resource cost share and grant programs.

Grande Ronde River (Wild and Scenic River Segment)

The Omnibus Oregon Wild & Scenic Rivers Act of 1988 designated 43.8 miles of the Grande Ronde River from Rondowa to the Oregon/Washington border, in the following classes:

Segment A Recreational: The 1.5 miles from Rondowa to the Umatilla Forest boundary.

Segment B Wild: The 26.4 miles from the Umatilla Forest boundary to Wildcat Creek.

Segment C Recreational: The 15.9 miles from Wildcat Creek to the Oregon/Washington border.

As directed by the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, a corridor boundary was established based on resource values, not to exceed an average of 320 acres per river mile. The attached Maps 2 through 11 show private and federal land ownership. The State Scenic Waterway segment which overlaps with the federal Wild and Scenic River designation is from Rondowa to the Oregon/ Washington border. The boundaries for the State Scenic Waterway are set at ¼ mile on each side of the river from mean high water line, and is set by legislation.

The designated segments of the Grande Ronde River to the Oregon/Washington stateline is included in with the Wallowa and Grande Ronde (Washington segment) to produce one management plan for the entire 90 mile river corridor.

The following resource management actions are designed to protect and/or enhance the Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV's) of scenery, recreation, fisheries, and wildlife.

The Grande Ronde River Citizens Ad Hoc Team Vision Statement for the Management of the National Wild and Scenic River Segment of the Grande Ronde River is as follows:

"Our Vision is to protect and/or enhance the physical, biological, social, economic, cultural, and other special qualities that give the free-flowing Grande Ronde River its unique character. We recognize the validity and importance of existing private land uses while protecting and enhancing the natural and cultural resources that are shared with adjacent public lands. The management plan shall reflect the different mix of uses, ownership and development of each segment."

To protect and Enhance Outstanding Remarkable Values (ORV) on the Grande Ronde River, while recognizing private landowner interests and rights consistent with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, the following actions will be taken:

Scenery

- Preserve the existing landscape within the wild section. Any change should be very low and must not attract attention. Manage as a visual resource management class I.

- Manage the existing landscape within the recreational section with only a low level of change. Activities may be seen but should not distract attention. Manage public land as a visual resource management class II.

Social

- Improve river staging areas to better accommodate all river users, especially the disabled.

- Develop and utilize a work group to assist in the implementation of the plan the formulation of recreation monitoring indicators and standards utilizing the limits of acceptable change process.

- Implement additional limitations when monitoring determines that the recreation use standard is not being met.

- A special use authorization will be required for all commercial recreation services. A single outfitter-guided permit will be issued which authorizes use on all administrative jurisdictions.

- Outfitter-guide permits will remain open to applicants who have basic technical and financial capability, providing they follow the prescribed administrative process. Permits will not be reissued to permit holders who received an "unacceptable" performance rating by the land manager.

- Close river corridor to motorized watercraft use from 1.5 miles below Rondowa (forest boundary) to the Oregon/Washington stateline with the exception of search and rescue efforts directed by the appropriate county sheriff and for private landowner access for land management activities in existence at the time of the Act.

- Develop a public awareness plan for all users on river resources, public and private use, management policies and user responsibilities.

- Maintain existing campsites within the corridor in an undeveloped condition.

- In the 1.5 mile recreation segment motorized watercraft use would be allowed to continue subject to the results of monitoring studies to determine its social and biological impacts.

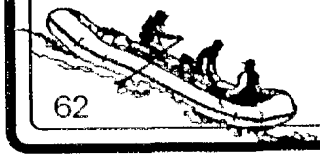
- Develop and implement interim limitations on motorized watercraft on the 1.5 mile recreation segment as determined through monitoring studies (limits on the number of launches, number of trips, number of commercial permits, seasonal use, size of watercraft, and horsepower and other appropriate limits may be considered). This monitoring will be done jointly between BLM, Forest Service, State Marine Board, and Oregon Registered Outfitter, and a private motorized watercraft operator.

- Develop regulations requiring mandatory firepans and packout of human waste and garbage and provide the necessary facilities.

- Trail construction, reconstruction and maintenance will be encouraged along the slopes above the river. Trails and trail use will be discouraged as access to the river. Recreation trails will not be constructed within 500 vertical feet of the river, unless the horizontal distance is a minimum of one mile.

- Continue existing uses of private land within the corridor as directed by Union and Wallowa county zoning and the Oregon State Scenic Waterway Administrative Rules.

- Develop management actions that maintain existing rural life-styles of corridor residents.



- Maintain levels of resource utilizations in the agricultural and forest industries on private land at the time of the passage of the Act as directed by the State Scenic Waterway program.

- Maintain physical resource base necessary for the continuation of recreation based industries.

  Assist Union and Wallowa counties in broadening the economic bases of various communities through resource cost share and grant programs.

  Boundaries of river segments and significant administrative units should be well marked.

  Recreation Section: Signing should enable floaters to orient themselves on maps. Public land and facilities should be clearly marked. Geographic features identified as a convenience to users and to instill confidence in orienteering skills.

  Wild Section: Signing should be at a level which requires high orienteering skills. Geographic features will not be signed. Only locations to facilities needed for resource protection will be marked.

Biological

- Monitor and assess fish and wildlife habitat and populations within the corridor.

- Manage resource activities to restore wildlife and fish habitat and watershed stabilization by utilizing instream, riparian, and watershed improvement projects.

- Monitor sensitive, threatened, and/or endangered plant and wildlife species populations. Identify and improve habitat conditions (quality and quantity) that might be limiting.

  Improve habitat requirements for species that fall under the Federal Threatened and Endangered Species Act.

- Monitor and assess fish and wildlife ecological requirements to enhance existing populations of corridor species.

- Develop cooperative agreements between Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and private landowners for protection and enhancement of riparian habitats.

- Maintain or enhance fish and wildlife populations using current and updated management practices in cooperation with ODFW, Nez Perce, and related agencies.

- Develop monitoring activities of corridor fish and wildlife populations to ensure long term biodiversity and productivity.

- Management activities within the corridor will balance flora, fauna and physical element conditions in conformance with the vision statement.

- Monitor the impacts of recreation on wintering wildlife species and nesting activities of bald eagles within the corridor.

- Implement limitations on recreation use when monitoring determines that use exceeds the standard on wintering wildlife species and nesting activities of bald eagles within the corridor.

Water

Water quality monitoring will be conducted within the corridor to determine cause, extent, and location of point and non-point source pollution.

Resource management actions within the corridor will meet minimum water quality standards as set by Oregon Department of Environmental Quality.

Cooperate in developing a water monitoring program to assist agencies and private land owners in meeting water quality and quantity requirements for fish and wildlife resources and domestic and recreation uses.

- Regulate resource activities on public land within the corridor that would have the potential to degrade water quality of quantity of the Grande Ronde River to protect and enhance those values.

- Identify sources of pollution within the corridor and correct where economically and physically feasible.

- Water rights which predate designation of the Grande Ronde Wild and Scenic River (October 28, 1988) will be unaffected. Water rights with priority dates after designation of the river will only be affected when streamflows are diminished and designated purposes can not otherwise be met. Cooperation with senior water right holders will be pursued to protect the designated Wild and Scenic River values.

- Agricultural uses of the river will continue, subject to Union and Wallowa County Zoning and Oregon State Scenic Waterway Administrative Rules. (Reference Chapter 4).

Cultural

- Implement a systematic program of inventory and evaluation for cultural resources on public lands, including traditional use areas.

- Conduct periodic patrols of all cultural resources sites, and install protection signs to discourage vandalism.

- Conduct bi-monthly patrols of highly sensitive and vulnerable archaeological sites.

- Complete baseline condition documentation of sensitive archaeological and historical sites.

- Develop a public awareness program for the general public on protection of cultural resources in the river corridor.

- Develop agreements between state and federal agencies, and tribes for protection of cultural resources.

- Conduct annual monitoring of cultural resources on public lands in high use areas.

- Inventory, protect and enhance significant cultural resource and traditional use locations through administrative or physical protection measures, stabilization or documentation.

- Complete baseline documentation of sensitive cultural resource sites.

- Restrict or exclude camping or livestock grazing as necessary to protect cultural resource sites.

Land

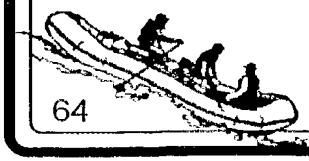
- Authorized livestock grazing of the corridor will be allowed on public land through permit licensing by the appropriate agency and managed to achieve the monitoring standard for riparian plant communities.

- Seasons of use and rotation systems to disperse livestock and achieve desired utilization levels as shown on Table 14, will be established through the development of grazing plans with individual permit holders.

- Fencing, water developments and holding facilities will be developed at critical locations to protect and/or enhance ORV's and/or to assist livestock management subject to visual constraints and other restrictions in this plan.

- Reintroduce fire as an effective vegetative management tool through the use of prescribed burns.

- Eliminate or reduce to acceptable levels of fuel build-up and hazards that are a result of past management and/or natural catastrophic events, insofar as this does not conflict with the protection and enhancement of ORVs.



- Continue present fire suppression agreements between BLM, Forest Service and Oregon Department of Forestry.

- Develop control systems for weeds, insects, and disease to include herbicides, pesticides, fire, plowing, seeding, and biological controls for the protection of the corridors ORVs.

- Agricultural practices on public land administered by Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife will utilize current ground manipulation applications for producing desired forage.

- The wild classification segment is withdrawn from mineral entry and the recreation classification segments are currently open to locatable mineral exploration and development.

- Location mineral exploration and development on public land will require a plan of operation demonstrating protection of Wild and Scenic river values.

- Within the Wild segment, oil and gas leasing is excluded within one-quarter mile of the mean high water mark on either side of the river. Oil and gas leasing will be allowed outside of this corridor and in the other designated segments with a special, "no surface occupancy" stipulation.

- This area is not a coal production area currently, and no federal coal leasing will result from this plan.

- Development of mineral material resources, aggregate and other common variety minerals, shall be prohibited on public land, unless needed on an "emergency basis," to protect the ORVs.

- The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act prohibits power and water development on existing withdrawn lands within the river boundaries. No new water power withdrawals would be allowed.

- Revoke all withdrawals within the river corridor. Since these lands cannot be used from their withdrawn use (energy development) revocation of the withdrawals to BLM would provide a positive benefit to all agencies involved. FERC would not be encumbered with management of lands that no longer provide the intent of the original withdrawal. BLM would be able to more effectively manage the river corridor because of the more contiguous land patterns.

- Minimum flow needs to protect ORVs and acquisition of state water rights would impact future hydro-potential.

- Agricultural practices on public land administered by Bureau of Land Management under 302 permits will utilize current ground manipulations, herbicide, and pesticide applications for producing desired forage.

- Authorize existing unauthorized Agricultural, occupancy and other uses under a 302 permit as long as they are compatible with Wild and Scenic river values.

- Salvage of dead and dying timber may be used as a means of protecting or enhancing ORV's.

- Utilize timber harvest as a tool to restore forest health and improve wildlife habitat whenever it is the most effective method and insofar as it does not conflict with protection and enhancement of ORVs.

ADMINISTRATIVE

- Develop and utilize a work group to assist in the implementation of the plan and the formulation of recreation monitoring indicators and standards utilizing the limits of acceptable change process.

- Develop appropriate cooperative agreements, as necessary, between all involved agencies and groups for management of the river and implementation of this plan.

- Develop contingency plans for proper action during emergency situations (catastrophic events) including an economic analysis.

- Water rights which predate designation of the Grande Ronde Wild and Scenic River (October 28, 1988) will be unaffected. Management plans will be implemented to maintain instream flows, based on Oregon Departments of Water Resources and Fish and Wildlife recommendations.

- Implement cooperative inter-agency agreements to develop adequate law enforcement policies and patrol criteria and responsibilities of each agency.

- Develop an intensive public awareness program for all users of river resources, public and private use, management policies and user responsibilities.

- Develop a signing plan to clearly identify boundary lines between public and private lands.

- Determine if acquisition of private lands is necessary to meet the protection and/or enhancement criteria of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Acquisition will only be from willing sellers. Condemnation for scenic easements will only be used as a last resort to protect and enhance ORVs.

- Develop maintenance and improvement programs on existing facilities and access points to better facilitate public use.

- Develop a water monitoring program to assist agencies and private landowners in water quality and quantity requirements for fish and wildlife enhancement and utilities.

- Continue maintenance of existing transportation systems including state, county, and private roads. Consistent with the policies and purposes of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

- Continue maintenance of existing utility systems.

- New utility systems will meet Oregon State Scenic Waterway guidelines within the corridor.

- Maintenance activities will meet visual and cultural resource requirements.

- New transportation requirements on private land will meet Oregon State Scenic Waterway guidelines within the corridor.

- Minimize new road development on public land within the river corridor to protect and enhance ORVs.

- Evaluate hydrologic, paleontologic, botanical, ecologic and cultural resources within the designated Wild and Scenic River Corridor assessing their potential as ORVs.

- Continue utilization of corridor water for agricultural purposes.

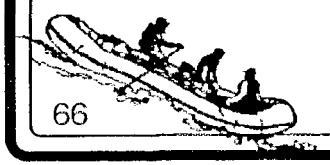
Grande Ronde River (Washington Segment)

The entire Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers reach from Minam, OR., to the confluence with the Snake River at Heller Bar, WA., was identified in the Baker Resource Management Plan (RMP) as a Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA) and Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) to be managed as one continuous river segment.

The Washington segment of the Grande Ronde River from the Washington/ Oregon stateline to Heller Bar, WA., on the Snake River was included with the Wallowa and Grande Ronde (Oregon Wild and Scenic River segment) to produce one management plan for the entire 90 mile river corridor.

The Grande Ronde River Citizens Ad Hoc Team Vision Statement for the Management of the Washington Segment of the Grande Ronde River is as follows:

"The intent of this planning effort, within the State of Washington, is to develop a recreation management plan, both process and product, for public lands and recommend guidelines on private land that are consistent



with, and contribut plar loped by state and loca gencies resulting in a coope ma nt environment whereby benefit including resources.

ENVIRONMENTAL

Protect the natural scenic and geologic values of the designated Grande Ronde Goosenecks National Natural Landmark in Oregon and Washington.

Develop control systems for weeds, insects and disease to include herbicides, pesticides, fire, plowing seeding and biological controls. Develop agreements with County Weed Control District.

Agricultural practices on public land administered by Washington Department of Wildlife will utilize current ground manipulation, herbicide, and pesticide applications for producing desired forage.

Develop regulations and facilities to require mandatory pack-out of human waste and garbage. River Ranger patrols will assist in corridor maintenance.

Assess impacts of chemical application to plant and animal populations prior to use. Integrated pest management should be encouraged as an alternative to chemical application where appropriate.

Monitor, identify and implement programs that have the least environmental impact on the river ecosystems with emphasis on Threatened and Endangered Species and habitats.

Resource management actions within the corridor will meet minimum water quality standards as set by Washington Department of Ecology.

Cooperate in developing a water monitoring program to assist agencies and private land owners in meeting water quality and quantity requirements for flow-dependent resources and domestic and public uses.

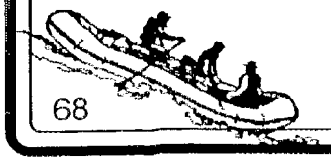
- Water quality monitoring on public lands will be conducted within the corridor as needed to determine point and non-point source pollution.
- Regulate resource activities on public land within the corridor watershed that would have the potential to degrade water quality of quantity of the Grande Ronde River.
- Identify sources of pollution within the corridor and correct where economically and physically feasible.
- Optimize resource activities to enhance wildlife and fish populations by utilizing instream and riparian improvement projects.
- Maintain or enhance fish and wildlife populations using current and updated management practices as determined by WDW, WDF, Nez Perce Tribe, and related agencies.
- Improve habitat for species that fall under the Federal Threatened and Endangered Species Act.
- Monitor and assess fish and wildlife ecological requirements to enhance existing populations of corridor species.
- Develop cooperative agreements between agencies and private landowners for protection and enhancement of riparian habitat.
- Maintain or enhance riparian habitats through utilization of current and updated management practices.
- Develop monitoring activities of corridor fish and wildlife populations to insure long term biodiversity and productivity.
- Management activities within the corridor will enhance existing flora, fauna and physical elements.
- Maintenance activities will meet visual and cultural resource requirements.

Recreational

- Develop and utilize a work group to assist in the implementation of the plan and the formulation of recreation monitoring indicators and standards utilizing the limits of acceptable change process.
- Improve river staging and camping areas to include disabled and family opportunity requirements.
- Develop volunteer programs to assist agencies in corridor management in all resource fields.
- A special use authorization will be required for all commercial recreation services. A single outfitter-guide permit will be issued which authorizes use on all administrative jurisdictions.
- Outfitter-guide permits will remain open to applicants who have basic technical and financial capability, providing they follow the prescribed administrative process. Permits will not be reissued to permit holders who receive an "unacceptable" performance rating by the land manager.
- Retain the existing character of the landscape with only a low level of change. Activities may be seen but should not attract attention. Manage public land as a visual resource management class II.
- Continue corridor use for both motorized and non-motorized watercraft.
- Maintain physical resources to insure the continuation of recreation based industries.
- Trail construction, reconstruction and maintenance will be encouraged along the slopes above the river. Trails and trail use will be discouraged as access to the river. Recreation trails will not be constructed within 500 vertical feet of the river, unless the horizontal distance is a minimum of one mile.
- Signing should enable floaters to orient themselves on maps. Public land and facilities should be clearly marked. Geographic features identified as a convenience to users and to instill confidence in orienteering skills.

Cultural

- Implement a systematic program of inventory and evaluation for cultural resources on public lands, including traditional use areas and cultural values.
- Conduct weekly patrols of all cultural resource sites and install protection signs to discourage vandalism; conduct periodic aerial and remote surveillance of highly vulnerable sites.
- Develop a public awareness program for the general public on the protection of the cultural resources of the corridor.
- Complete baseline documentation of sensitive archaeological and historical sites.
- Develop cooperative agreements with the Nez Perce tribe to maintain the preservation of their traditions and treaty rights as well as cultural sites.
- Develop interagency and tribal agreements for the protection of cultural sites.
- Conduct annual monitoring of cultural resources on public lands in high use areas.
- Annually monitor sites in the Snake River National Register District.
- Restrict or exclude camping or livestock grazing as necessary to protect cultural resource sites.



- Complete administrative or legal property surveys to protect cultural resources on public lands from trespass and illegal actions.

- Protect and enhance cultural resource sites and traditional use locations through administrative or physical protection measures, stabilization or documentation.

PUBLIC LAND

- Authorized livestock grazing of the corridor will be allowed on public land through permit licensing by the appropriate agency with individual grazing permittees and managed to achieve the monitoring standard for riparian communities.

- Seasons of use and rotation systems to disperse livestock and achieve desired utilization levels as shown on Table 14, will be established through the development of grazing plans.

- Fencing, water developments and holding facilities will be developed at critical locations to protect resource values and assist livestock management, subject to visual resource constraints.

- Reintroduce fire as an effective vegetative management tool through the use of prescribed burns.

- Eliminate or reduce to acceptable levels of fuel build-up and hazards that are a result of past management and/or natural catastrophic events.

- Continue present fire suppression agreements between appropriate agencies.

- Agricultural practices on public land administered by Washington Department of Wildlife will utilize current ground manipulation, herbicide, and pesticide applications for producing desired forage.

- Mineral extraction on public land will require a plan of operation, demonstrating protection of river values. Within 200 feet of the mean high water mark each side of the river mineral extraction is prohibited as directed by Asotin County Shoreline Management Plan.

- Develop a public awareness plan for all users on river resources, public and private use, management policies and user responsibilities.

- Assist Asotin county in broadening the economic bases of various communities through resource cost share and grant programs.

- Develop appropriate cooperative agreements as necessary between all involved agencies and groups for management of the river and implementation of this plan.

- Minimize new road development on public land within the river corridor.

- Develop contingency plans for proper action during emergency situations.

- Valid holders of water rights would be unaffected. Management plans will be implemented to maintain instream flows, based on the Baker Resource Area RMP and the Washington Divisions of Wildlife and Fisheries recommendations.

- Implement cooperative inter-agency agreements to develop adequate law enforcement policies and patrol criteria and responsibilities of each agency.

- Develop a signing plan to clearly identify boundary lines between public and private lands.

- Initiate a private land acquisition program from willing sellers only. Private party initiated easement/acquisition proposals will be processed on a priority basis. No condemnation of private land will occur.

- Develop maintenance and improvement programs to enhance public use facilities.

- Continue maintenance of transportation systems including state, county, and private roads.

- Agricultural practices on public land administered by Washington Department of Wildlife will utilize current ground manipulation, herbicide, and pesticide applications for producing desired forage.

- Authorize existing unauthorized agricultural, occupancy and other uses under a 302 permit as long as they are compatible with Asotin County Shoreline Management Plan and consistent with BLM Resource Management Plan objectives

- Continue maintenance of existing utility systems.

- New utility systems will be compatible with Asotin County Shoreline Management Plan and consistent with BLM Resource Management Plan objectives.

- Review all withdrawals within river corridor as to whether they are being used and/or meet current objectives. Withdrawal continued use will be justified by the withdrawal agency.

PRIVATE LAND

- Valid holders of water rights on private and municipal lands would be unaffected. Management plans will be implemented to maintain instream flows, based on Washington Divisions of Wildlife and Fisheries recommendations and the Asotin County Shoreline program.

- Agricultural uses of the river will continue.

- Continue existing uses of private land within the corridor as directed by Asotin County Shoreline Regulations.

- Assess impacts of chemical application to plant and animal populations prior to use. Integrated pest management should be encouraged as an alternative to chemical application where appropriate.

- Develop agreements with County Weed Control District and Asotin County Shoreline Commission, and those agencies responsible for Threatened and Endangered plants and animals.

- Develop management actions within the corridor and basin that maintain the existing life-styles of corridor residents, while protecting corridor values and public use.

- Within 200 feet of the mean high water mark each side of the river mineral extraction is prohibited as directed by Asotin County Shorelines Management Plan.

- New transportation requirements on private land will meet Asotin County Shoreline Standards within the corridor.

TABLE 14
MONITORIN(

alue to be Protec and/or Enhance(		M nagement Stan(to be Used	M	M ag ent Action mplemente(
1. Visual Resources (Scenery) (ORV)	Cultural modifications (human-caused changes, such as livestock grazing, access development, timber harvest, recreation facility development, etc.) which would significantly alter landform, vegetation, water, color or character of the area.	Contrasts created by new management activities will not be allowed if they attract the attention of the casual observer within the characteristic landscape, as determined by BLM Manual 8331 objectives for Class I and Class II. Natural ecological changes will predominate.	Ongoing as proposals are implemented and supplemented with on-the-ground surveillance during weekly patrols to detect possible unauthorized activities.	Specific standards identified in BLM Manual 8331 will be used for a scenery quality rating which addresses acceptable and unacceptable cultural modifications including degrees of change in land use, surface disturbance and development densities. Visual contrast rating and evaluation will be conducted for all proposed cultural modifications on public lands. Actions which are not consistent with visual resource management objectives will be modified or rejected.
2. Recreational Use (ORV)	Boating-Encounters per trip with other float parties.	Five or less encounters per trip - 80% of the time.	Random week-day and week-end/holiday sampling conducted during the primary use season at boat landing sites to monitor actual numbers of boaters. Sampling error will be within 5 percent. Develop short survey of visitors utilizing questionnaire about quality of recreation experience. Administer survey at random shore locations on randomly selected half days during the primary use season.	Develop public use brochures and map to inform and educate boaters how to avoid peak use periods and reduce user impacts. Provide basic site protection measures in launch and landing areas. Design and sign launch and landing areas for efficient, expedient and safe use. Institute uniformed agency, and volunteer personnel as information and education resources. The following list will be implemented in order as management standard (LAC) are exceeded). 1. Design a voluntary program of staggered starting time for boats during the high use season. 2. Institute a self-regulating use system on the basis of even/odd use on weekends. 3. Institute a permit system for weekends only. 4. As a last resort after a 3-year attempt to achieve the management standard through indirect means and in an effort to regulate use levels to protect and enhance the identified river values, establish a river use allocation system for all users. Develop the system through extensive public involvement with a consensus solution between affected users that maintain the quality of the recreational experience.

TABLE 14
MONITORING

Value to be Protected and/or Enhanced	Key Indicator	Management Standard to be Used	Monitoring Required	Management Action(s) to be Implemented
2. Recreational Use (ORV) - Continued	Camping-Quality of Experience.	Acceptable (LAC) camper numbers per area per day to be determined by studies.	Develop short survey of visitors utilizing questionnaire about quality of recreation experience. Administer survey at random developed campsites on randomly selected half days during the primary use season. Sampling error will be within 5 percent.	Complete campsite inventory and evaluation for all campsites on public lands. Develop public use brochures and map to inform and educate campers how to avoid peak use periods and utilize less crowded sections of the river.
	Soil Stability	Percent of campsite that is exposed bare soil.	A campsite monitoring system will be implemented to document present campsite condition and means to measure cumulative change in soil and vegetative condition.	Set aside and provide basic site protection measures at undeveloped boat-in sites for camping.
		Stability of riverbank.		For those campsites which are set aside for camping, harden all sites which are being impacted to a moderate, heavy or extreme degree with basic site protection measures.
		Degree of soil loss.		Campsites which have received heavy or extreme impacts will be rehabilitated and if necessary, closed until levels of impacts have been mitigated to at least moderate.
		Vegetative composition, condition and trend.		As a last resort to manage camping use levels within acceptable limits, campsites will be reserved in advance during the primary use season.
		Percent of campsite with significant vegetative disturbance. Degree of tree damage including exposed roots. Impacts to campsites will be light or moderate based on subjective judgement regarding vegetation impacted, exposed tree roots, trails, bare areas, dead trees, erosion and vegetation change as follows: 1. Light-Previous ground vegetation present on the site. Vegetation often flattened but not permanently injured. Minimal physical change.		

TABLE 14
MONITORING

Value to be Protected and/or Enhanced	Key Indicator	Management Standard to be Used	Monitoring Required	Management Action(s) to be Implemented
2. Recreational Use (ORV) - Continued	Soil Stability - Continued	2. Moderate-Previous ground vegetation intact, but growth somewhat retarded. Ground vegetation worn away in center of activity area. 3. Heavy-Most previous ground vegetation gone, beginning tree root exposure, trails radiate from site, erosion absent, litter or duff still present, impact restricted to site. 4. Extreme-Previous ground vegetation gone, dead trees, tree roots exposed, erosion present or beginning, compacted soil restricts reestablishment of indigenous vegetation, changes in species composition, bare mineral soil widespread, little litter or duff, satellite areas may be present.		
	Other Recreational Users-Quality of experience.	Acceptable (LAC) number of visitors per segment per day to be determined by studies.	Conduct short survey of visitors utilizing questionnaire about quality of recreation experience. Administer survey at random locations on randomly selected half days during the primary use season. Sampling error will be within 5 percent.	Develop public use brochures and map to inform and educate users on how to avoid peak use periods and utilize less crowded sections of the river.
3. Fish/Wildlife Habitat (ORV)	Riparian vegetative condition.	Vegetation: less than 1/3 of the plots monitored indicating reduction in species and/or percent cover as compared to control plots.	Establish 8-10 plots, stratified by amount of recreation use, with transects identifying plant species and percent ground cover. Each plot should have two controls, matching the monitoring plot. Transects read at two-year intervals.	Modify or eliminate the activity (livestock grazing, timber sales, recreation use, etc.) that has been determined to be in excess of the use standard.
		Channel bank: less than 1/3 of the monitoring sites show a reduction in condition rating.	Document channel stability rating using Pfanchuck stability form at monitoring sites established for vegetation plots (above). Stability rating performed every two years in conjunction with vegetation monitoring.	
	Quality and quantity of spawning gravel downstream of Minam, OR.	To be determined by comparison with gravel in control area and historical accounts.	Annual pebble count and interstitial space index at key spawning areas. Area of existing spawning gravel.	
	Amount of large pools and percent composition of substrate.	Historic stream surveys as baseline.	Fish habitat survey of Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers every 5 years.	

TABLE 14
MONITORING

Value to be Protected and/or Enhanced	Key Indicator	Management Standard to be Used	Monitoring Required	Management Action(s) to be Implemented
3. Fish/Wildlife Habitat (ORV) - Continued	Large in-stream woody material.	To be determined by comparison between similar reaches of the Wallowa/Grande Ronde River that are not boated, and with previous year's monitoring.	Annual fisheries biologist float or pack trip during late spring. Feedback from routine river patrols.	
	River corridor use by raptors and waterfowl.	Historic records compared with future observations should not indicate downward trends.	Count/record all nests, raptors, and waterfowl sittings on regularly scheduled surveys.	
	Maintenance of unique habitats (wetlands, cliffs, talus slopes, etc.) and use by associated species.	Significant loss or degradation of these habitats is observed and/or there is a downward trend in associated species.	Habitats will be inventoried through the District Stand Exam Program and wildlife inventories. Associated species will be surveyed during project evaluations.	
	Maintenance of habitats for T&E listed anadromous fish, i.e.: Instream features including pool-riffle-glide composition, woody debris character, percent stream shading and channel substrate.	Guidelines for determining habitat adequacy are the Best Management Practice standards identified by the American Fisheries Society and as identified through consultation process with NMFS.	Data is derived from the microhabitat inventory methodology gathered periodically in feeder streams and the main stem of the Wallowa/Grande Ronde (at least every 10 years). The substrate condition and sediment load present within the river will be determined with the pebble count methodology. More frequent replications of these methodologies will be conducted if there is a need to do so.	
	Maintenance of Anadromous fish and other native species populations to meet state and federal agency management numbers.	Recruitment and population structure standards as identified by state and federal agencies. These standards will vary depending upon the fish species considered and fish productivity potential of each stream.	The BLM in cooperation with other agencies will conduct periodic fish census work to determine the productivity and population structure of key fish species. Standard sampling methodologies will be used to gather this data.	
4. Cultural (Historic & Archaeological)	Site Integrity (condition/trend) Evidence of vandalism, looting or intrusions Percent vegetative cover. Erosion of site surface, cultural deposits or significant features.	No significant cultural resource which is being irreparably damaged by human use or eroded by natural forces to the point that it is in danger of being lost will be acceptable. Number of incidents of illegal activity on site. Visible change from historic or new record baseline condition.	Field recording of changes in vegetative cover, erosion, disturbance of physical relationships or characteristics, intrusions and new disturbances, human and natural change and use agents, using permanent trend plots or transects augmented by photo documentation and subjective evaluations. Monitoring surveys will be conducted on a cyclic, staggered schedule according to the following priority: 1. House pits, rock shelters, burials, rock art sites, and National Register listed sites which are easily accessible or in high use areas at least three times per year.	

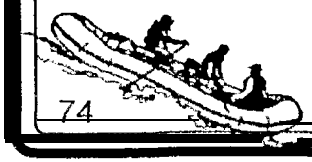


TABLE 14
MONITORING

Value to be Protected and/or Enhanced	Key Indicator	Management Standard to be Used	Monitoring Required	Management Action(s) to be Implemented
4. Cultural (Historic & Archaeological) - Continued			2. House pits, rock shelters, burials, rock art sites, and National Register listed sites which are not easily accessible or in high use areas at least twice per year. 3. Rock features and cairns, shell middens, talus depressions, lithic procurement locations, lithic scatters and historic sites or features which are easily accessible or in high use areas at least once per year. 4. Rock features and cairns, shell middens, talus depressions, lithic procurement locations, lithic scatters and historic sites or features which are not easily accessible or in high use areas at least once every 2 years. 5. Annual cultural resource specialist reconnaissance float trip during the high recreation use season.	Public information and education efforts through brochures, signs, informati on stations and visitor contact points will be implemented. Human use will be managed, restricted or closed by signing and/or fencing if damage to significant sites is now occurring or could occur in the future. Impact to cultural resources may be mitigated in some high use areas by surface collection of visible material. Surveillance or patrols of significant sites will be conducted by archaeologists, field personnel, law enforcement, and/or volunteers on a regular basis. Patrols of sensitive sites are scheduled at least bi-monthly. Stabilization of significant sites will be implemented if feasible if stabilization of the disturbed or threatened site is not feasible, the site will be salvaged to the degree possible. Inventory of lands in the river corridor and regular monitoring with baseline condition documentation of all recorded sites. Impact to cultural resources may be mitigated by physical protection measures or data recover. Consultation with Nez Perce tribe on all management actions affective cultural resource sites or traditional use areas.
5. Riparian and Associated Plant Communities	Ecological condition and trend as indicated by the composition of woody and herbaceous vegetation.	Riparian plant communities on public lands would be managed to maintain or achieve full vegetative potential with a minimum of 60 percent of ecological status being achieved within 15 years. All sites would have a mix of shrubs at the 50 percent potential level with the dominant species.	Complete ecological site inventory on all public lands.	Programs or measures will be implemented which promote cooperation and education in the process of achieving the plan's vegetative standards. Livestock grazing will be managed to meet established standards. This management could include various intensive grazing management systems or temporary or permanent exclusion of livestock from the riparian zones.

TABLE 14
MONITORING

Value to be Protected and/or Enhanced	Key Indicator	Management Standard to be Used	Monitoring Required	Management Action(s) to be Implemented
5. Riparian and Associated Plant Communities - Continued			Implement intensive monitoring studies (i.e. utilization, actual use, ecological condition and trend) to measure progress in meeting the riparian and upland standards on public lands.	The management agencies may work cooperatively with individual private landowners to assist in the development of grazing systems and construction of livestock management facilities. If, after five years, studies indicate a no positive trend toward meeting vegetative standards. Modify or eliminate the activity causing the degradation.
			Establish some permanent plot or transect studies in each ecological site, augmented by photo documentation and subjective evaluations. Reinventory ecological site condition as changes in status warrant. Similar monitoring will be conducted on private and allotted lands where landowners/managers are agreeable.	
		Proper Functioning Condition Riparian/ Wetland areas are functioning properly when adequate vegetation, landform, and/ or large woody debris is present to dissipate stream energy, aid floodplain development, recharge groundwater, stabilize streambanks, provide habitat, support greater biodiversity, and exhibit and upward and/or stable trend toward its potential.	Establish low level aerial photography and/or on-the-ground photo monitoring sites for vegetative condition and trend to measure progress in meeting riparian and upland objectives on public lands. Establish additional studies as needed (transects, cross-sections, etc.) and required.	
6. Water Quality	Stream temperature, turbidity, dissolved oxygen, fecal coliform, macro-invertebrates, and other physical and chemical water constituents as warranted.	Establish water quality monitoring for baseline, cause-and-affect, and long-term stream conditions at sites determined by management objectives and BLM policy.	The analytical testing methods for determining compliance with the water quality standards shall be in accordance with the most recent edition of Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Waste Water. Fecal coliform: A log mean of 200 fecal coliform per 100 milliliters based on a minimum of 5 samples in a 30-day period with no more than 10 percent of the samples in the 30-day period exceeding 400 per 100ml.	Modify or eliminate the public land activity causing baseline water quality standards to be exceeded.

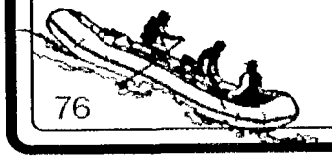
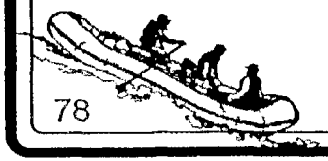


TABLE 14
MONITORING

Value to be Protected and/or Enhanced	Key Indicator	Management Standard to be Used	Monitoring Required	Management Action(s) to be Implemented
			Temperature: No measurable increases shall be allowed inside of the assigned testing zone, as measured relative to an established control point except for specifically limited duration activities which may be authorized by DEQ or DOE under such conditions as DEQ or DOE and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and Washington Department of Fisheries may prescribe and which are necessary to accommodate legitimate uses of or activities where temperatures in excess of this standard are unavoidable and all practical preventive techniques have been applied to minimize temperature rises. Dissolved oxygen: Dissolved oxygen concentrations shall not be less than 90 percent of saturation at the seasonal low, or less than 95 percent of saturation in spawning areas during spawning, incubation, hatching, and fry stages of resident fisheries. Turbidity (Jackson Turbidity Units, JTU): No more than a 10 percent cumulative increase in natural stream turbidities shall be allowed, as measured relative to a control point immediately upstream of the turbidity causing activity.	



CHAPTER 4 -
OREGON STATE SCENIC WATERWAY ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

Oregon Scenic Waterways Program

Background

The Oregon Scenic Waterway Act was established by a ballot initiative in 1970. The original Oregon Scenic Waterways system created by the Act included 496 free-flowing miles of six rivers.

Rivers can be added to the system through designation by the Governor or the legislature. Such actions have added significant mileage of five rivers, as well as Waldo Lake, to the Scenic Waterways system since passage of the original Act.

Rivers can also be added to the system by the citizens of Oregon. In 1988, Oregon voters passed the Oregon Rivers Initiative (Ballot Measure #7), which added 573 river miles to the system. These additions included the Wallowa River from its confluence with the Minam River at the hamlet of Minam to its confluence with the Grande Ronde at Rondowa, and the Grande Ronde River from Rondowa to the Oregon-Washington state line. There is now one lake and segments of 19 rivers (1148 miles), in the State Scenic Waterways system.

Program Goals

The scenic waterway program promotes cooperative protection and wise use of rivers in the system by all agencies (federal, state, and local), individual property owners, and recreation users. Program goals are:

- To protect the free-flowing character of designated rivers for fish, wildlife, and recreation. No dams, reservoirs, impoundments, or placer mining activities are allowed on scenic waterways.

- To protect and enhance scenic, aesthetic, natural, recreation, scientific, and fish and wildlife values along scenic waterways. New development or changes of existing uses proposed within a scenic waterway are reviewed before they may take place.

- To protect private property rights. The Act discourages unsightly structures or inappropriate development that could be a nuisance to neighboring landowners or even depreciate property values. It prohibits pollution and the disturbance of adjacent surface lands by placer mining. It also prohibits public use of private property without explicit consent of the landowner.

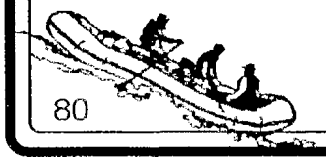
- To promote expansion of the scenic waterway system. The Act sets up a process for adding new rivers to the system and establishes criteria for candidate rivers.

- To encourage other local, state, and federal agencies to act consistently with the goals of the program. Oregon State Parks reviews plans and decisions made by other agencies to ensure consistency with the scenic waterways program.

Administration

Scenic waterways are administered under the authority of the Oregon State Parks and Recreation Commission (ORS 390.805 to ORS 390-925). Administrative rules (OAR 736-40-005 to 736-40-095) have been adopted to govern the program (see Appendix G). In addition to the general rules governing the program, specific rules are generated for management of each river segment in the system. These rules are created through the management planning process, and tailored to the actions necessary to maintain the existing character of the designated river corridor.

The Act and the Commission's rules require the evaluation of proposed land use changes within one-quarter mile from each side of the river for their potential impacts on aesthetic and scenic values, as viewed from the river. Property owners wanting to build roads or houses, develop mines, harvest timber, or other similar projects, must provide written notification to the Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department. Parks evaluation of the project will be coordinated with other natural resource agencies (federal and state) having regulatory responsibility and with the local jurisdiction. Parks relies on its river classification and administrative rules for each segment of the scenic waterway to determine whether the proposed project is incompatible



or inconsistent with the designated classification. State Parks will work with the landowner to reach a mutually satisfactory resolution of any conflicts. Where such a resolution cannot be reached, the Commission must decide within one year of the original notification whether to pay the property owner for the land or the development rights. If the Commission does not decide within one year to acquire the land or development rights, then the landowner may proceed in accordance with the original development proposal.

Other local and state agencies must comply with the scenic waterway law and rules. Parks also works closely with federal agencies to assure their actions are compatible with scenic waterway law, rule, and resource management recommendations.

The Management Planning Process

The goal of the scenic waterway management planning process is to develop a comprehensive and workable management plan which will protect or enhance the special attributes of the designated river corridor. Primary emphasis is the protection of aesthetic, scenic, fish and wildlife, scientific and recreational features. The intent is to maintain the scenic "status quo" condition of the area, without "turning back the clock" on existing land uses. The mechanisms for protection and enhancement include:

River Classification - Within the management plan, scenic waterways are classified into one or more of six possible classifications, according to the character of the landscape and the amount and type of development.

Administrative Rules - Once the classifications are set, specific guidelines for new development are established as rules.

Other Management Recommendations - These are suggestions for actions to protect or enhance corridor values, to be implemented by the State Parks Department, other state agencies, organizations, or persons.

Scenic Waterway Classification

Under Oregon law (ORS 390.845 - Functions of the department; use of adjacent lands), the scenic waterway program is administered by the State Parks and Recreation Commission, and staffed by the Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department. The Parks Department is required to protect the aesthetic, scenic, fish and wildlife, scientific and recreation features based on special attributes of each river area. The Parks Department strives to protect special attributes of the river while recognizing existing land uses and management practices on adjacent lands.

In order to define and achieve management goals, the river is classified into one or more of six possible classifications, according to the present level of land development or landscape alterations. Once the classifications are set, appropriate guidelines for new development or landscape alterations are established as rules. The aim of the program is to maintain the existing scenic condition of the river.

The following are existing land use and land alteration conditions usually associated with each of the six river classifications; and how each kind of classification should be administered (managed) in scenic waterways:

1. Natural River Areas are generally inaccessible except by trail or river, with primitive or minimally developed shorelands. Preservation and enhancement of the primitive character of these areas is the goal of this and the next two classifications.

2. Accessible Natural River Areas are relatively primitive, undeveloped areas with access by railroad or lightly traveled road.

3. Natural Scenic View Areas are designated where one riverbank is inaccessible, undeveloped or primitive in character while the opposite bank is accessible and developed.

4. Scenic River Areas may be accessible by roads, but are largely undeveloped and primitive except for agriculture and grazing. River segments considered "Scenic" are managed to maintain or enhance their high scenic quality, recreation value, fishery and wildlife habitat. The intent is to preserve their largely undeveloped character while allowing continuing agricultural uses.

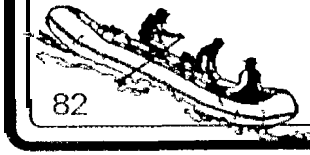
5. Recreational River Areas are readily accessible by road or railroad, with some agricultural, commercial and/or residential development along the banks; the river may have undergone some impoundment or diversion in the past. River segments considered "Recreational" are managed to allow continuance of compatible river oriented public outdoor recreation opportunities, to the extent that these do not substantially impair the natural beauty of the scenic waterway or diminish its aesthetic, fish and wildlife, scientific and recreational values.

6. River Community Areas are river segments where the density (residential tract or platted subdivision) of existing structures or other developments precludes application of a more restrictive classification. River segments considered "Community Areas" are managed to allow development that is compatible with county zoning and blends into the natural character of the surrounding landscape. This also means protecting riparian vegetation, and encouraging activities that enhance the landscape.

The rules established for each river classification generally allow some new construction and continued use of existing structures and improvements. Though some improvements require notification, review and approval, many others do not.

For example, notification and approval is not generally needed for construction of new fences; maintenance of farm buildings, fences or outbuildings; laying of irrigation lines; crop rotation; removal of danger trees; construction of grain storage facilities under certain conditions; maintenance of existing residences and outbuildings; minor residential remodeling; construction of garages adjacent to existing homes; certain changes in homesite landscaping; maintenance of roads and bridges; and firewood cutting for personal use.

Mining, road building, construction of most new structures, placement of mobile homes, land clearing and timber harvest are examples of activities requiring approval. River classifications and the associated rules or guidelines determine how the natural and scenic beauty of the river will be maintained.



Wallowa River Scenic Waterway Land Management Program

Proposed Classification

The Parks Department proposes to apply three classifications to the Wallowa River Scenic Waterway.

Minam River Community Area

Existing development at Minam includes a small store, a motel, a private residence, a mobile home used as headquarters for the BLM river rangers, a graveled parking lot and a boat ramp. This area, designated Rural Service on the Wallowa County zoning map, located in the county office, is classified as River Community Area. The management goal is to allow further development while ensuring that the development's visual effect from the river is unobtrusive.

Recreational River Area

From the north boundary of the Minam River Community Area to the north boundary of Minam State Park, the river is classified as a Recreational River Area. This segment, approximately two miles long, provides both land-based and river-based recreation. The maintained gravel road to the State Park provides easy access to the entire segment for boaters, hunters, anglers, hikers, picnickers, campers and swimmers. The management goal is to preserve the area's recreational quality and ensure that any new developments are unobtrusive.

Accessible Natural River Area

From the north boundary of the Recreational River Area to the Wallowa's confluence with the Grande Ronde, the river is classified as an Accessible Natural River Area. This segment, about 8 miles long, is the least developed portion of the Wallowa Scenic Waterway.

Visible from the river are a few primitive, private roads high on the slopes, the railroad track on the East bank, a power line, and a railroad bridge and older

structures at Rondowa. Harvesting timber has been a normal and continuing activity in this area and its visual impact, for the most part, has been minimal. These features are localized, and the overall impression is primitive and isolated. The management goal is to maintain the primitive character of the landscape.

Proposed Land Management Rules

- River Community Area

That segment of the Wallowa River zoned Rural Service by Wallowa County at Minam.

Rule: This River Community Area shall be administered consistent with the standards set by OAR 736-40-035 and OAR 736-40-040(1)(f) (see Appendix G). In addition to these standards, all new development shall comply with Wallowa County land use regulations.

New mining operations and similar improvements shall be permitted only when they are substantially screened from view from the river by topography and/or existing vegetation. If inadequate topographic or vegetative screening exists on a site, mining and similar forms of development may be permitted if vegetation is established which would provide substantial screening of the affected area. The condition of "substantial screening" shall consist of an ample density and mixture of evergreen and deciduous vegetation (preferably native) to totally obscure the altered improvement site.

If land is to remain in forest use, visible timber harvest may be allowed provided that: 1) the operation complies with the relevant Forest Practices Act rules, 2) harvest methods with low visual impact are used and 3) the effect of the harvest enhances the scenic view within a reasonable time (5-10 years). For the purposes of this rule, "enhance" means to improve timber stand health, including reducing stand density, by emulating the mosaic character of the natural forest landscape (pre-forest management tree density patterns - prior to 1920).

New roads constructed for timber harvest, mining or any other purpose shall be partially screened, either with vegetation or topography. If inadequate topography or vegetative screening exists, the road may be permitted if vegetation (preferably native) is established to provide partial screening of the road within a reasonable time (4-5 years). The condition of "partial screening" shall consist of an ample density and mixture of evergreen and deciduous vegetation (preferably native) to allow a partially filtered view (at least 30% filtering) of the road.

Improvements needed for public recreation use or resource protection may be visible from the river, but shall be designed to blend with the natural character of the landscape.

Whenever the standards of OAR 736-40-035 and the above rule are more restrictive than the applicable County Land Use and Development Ordinance, the above Oregon Administrative Rules shall apply.

II. Recreational River Area

That segment of the Wallowa River from the River Community Area to the north boundary of Minam State Park.

Rule: This Recreational River Area shall be administered consistent with the standards set by OAR 736-40-035 and OAR 736-40-040 (1)(c)(B) (Appendix G). In addition to these standards, all new development in resource zones (i.e. farm and forest related dwellings) shall comply with Wallowa and Union County land use regulations.

New structures and associated improvements (except as provided under OAR 736-40-030 (5)) shall be partially screened with native vegetation and/or existing topography. If inadequate topography or vegetative screening exists on a site, the structure or improvement may be permitted if vegetation (preferably native) is established to provide partial screening of the proposed structure or improvement within a reasonable time (4-5 years). The condition of "partial screening" shall consist of an ample density and mixture of evergreen and deciduous vegetation to partially obscure (at least 30%) the viewed improvement or structure, or allow a partially filtered view (at least 30% filtering) of the proposed structure or improvement.

New mining operations and similar improvements shall be permitted only when they are substantially screened from view from the river by topography and/or existing vegetation. If inadequate topographic or vegetative screening exists on a site, mining and similar forms of development may be permitted if vegetation is established which would provide substantial screening of the affected area. The condition of "substantial screening" shall consist of an ample density and mixture of evergreen and deciduous vegetation (preferably native) to totally obscure the altered improvement site.

Visible tree harvest may be allowed provided that: 1) the operation complies with the relevant Forest Practices Act rules, 2) harvest methods with low visual impact are used and 3) the effect of the harvest enhances the scenic view within a reasonable time (5-10 years). For the purposes of this rule, "enhance" means to improve timber stand health, including reducing stand density, by emulating the mosaic character of the natural forest landscape (pre-forest management density patterns - prior to 1920).

New roads constructed for timber harvest, mining or any other purpose shall be moderately screened with vegetation and/or topography. If inadequate topography or vegetative screening exists, the road may be permitted if vegetation (preferably native) is established to provide moderate screening of the road within a reasonable time, (4-5 years). The condition of "moderate screening" shall consist of an ample density and mixture of evergreen and deciduous vegetation (preferably native) to allow moderately filtered view (at least 50% filtering) of the road.

Improvements needed for public recreation use or resource protection may be visible from the river, but shall be designed to blend with the natural character of the landscape.

Whenever the standards of OAR 736-40-35 and the above rule are more restrictive than the applicable County Land Use and Development Ordinance, the above Oregon Administrative Rules shall apply.

III. Accessible Natural River Area

That segment of the Wallowa River from the north boundary of the Recreational River Area to the Wallowa's confluence with the Grande Ronde.

Rule: This Accessible Natural River Area shall be administered consistent with the standards set by OAR 736-40-035 and OAR 736-40-040(1)(e)(B) (Appendix G). In addition to these standards, all new development in resource zones (i.e. farm and forest related dwellings) shall comply with Wallowa and Union County land use regulations.

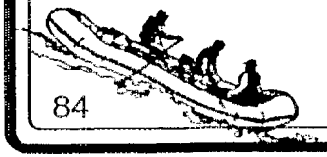
New structures and associated improvements shall be totally obscured from view from the river by existing vegetation and/or topography except as provided under OAR 736-40-030 (5) and except minimal facilities needed for public outdoor recreation or resource protection.

New mining operations and similar improvements shall be permitted only when they are substantially screened from view from the river by topography and/or existing vegetation. If inadequate topographic or vegetative screening exists on a site, mining and similar forms of development may be permitted if vegetation is established which would provide substantial screening of the affected area.

The condition of "substantial screening" shall consist of an ample density and mixture of evergreen and deciduous vegetation (preferably native) to totally obscure the altered improvement site at all stages of its development.

Visible tree harvest may be allowed provided that: 1) the operation complies with the relevant Forest Practices Act rules, 2) harvest methods with low visual impact are used and 3) the effect of the harvest is to enhance the scenic view within a reasonable time (5-10 years). For the purposes of this rule, "enhance" means to improve timber stand health, including reducing stand density, by emulating the mosaic character of the natural forest landscape (pre-forest management tree density patterns - prior to 1920).

New roads may be permitted only when fully screened from the river by topography or existing vegetation.



Existing visible roads may be upgraded when those roads are moderately screened or moderate screening is established. No side cast which would be visible from the river is permitted. Excess material shall be hauled to locations out of sight from the river. If inadequate screening exists, upgrading the road may be permitted if native vegetation is established to provide moderate screening of the road within a reasonable time (4-5 years). The condition of "moderate screening" shall consist of an ample density and mixture of evergreen and deciduous vegetation (preferably native) to allow a moderately filtered view (at least 50% filtering) of the road.

Proposed utility facilities shall share existing utility corridors, and any vegetation disturbance shall be kept to a minimum.

Improvements needed for public recreation use or resource protection may be visible from the river, but shall be primitive in character and designed to blend with the natural character of the landscape.

Whenever the standards of OAR 736-40-035 and the above rule are more restrictive than the applicable County Land Use and Development Ordinance, the above Administrative Rules shall apply.

Grande Ronde River Scenic Waterway Land Management Program

Proposed Classifications

The Parks Department proposes to apply four classifications to the Grande Ronde River Scenic Waterway.

Scenic River Area

From the confluence of the Wallowa and Grande Ronde Rivers (Rondowa) to the Umatilla National Forest boundary is classified as a Scenic River Area. This segment is approximately 2 miles long, and includes both private and public lands. Visible from the river are a few cabins, railroad crossing, a gauging station, a cable crossing, and a logging road. The timber stands on both sides of the river are actively managed for timber production (harvest, thinning, fertilization, etc.), with the most recent harvest occurring within the last 15 years. However, most of the harvest are unobtrusive. The management goal is to allow continuation of existing farm, forest, and recreation uses while protecting the scenic character of the area.

Natural River Area

From the Umatilla National Forest boundary, downstream about 26 miles to Wildcat Creek is classified as a Natural River Area. This segment is the least developed portion of the Grande Ronde scenic waterway. Most of the land fronting this segment of the river is publicly owned and overall character of this area is primitive and isolated. This segment is only accessible to cross country hikers and horseback riders, and to boaters. It offers a wild and unspoiled landscape where human presence is not apparent. The management goal is to preserve and protect the primitive undeveloped character of the area.

Recreational River Area

From Wildcat Creek approximately 15 miles to the Oregon State line, except for the community of Troy, is classified as a Recreational River Area. A county road parallels the entire river segment on one side and there are several miles of farm road on the other side. There are two main bridge crossings and several public access points. The ranch steads are thinly dispersed and picturesque, and are an integrated component of the existing landscape mosaic. Most of the structures are unobtrusive. The management goal is to allow the continuance of existing farm and ranch use with minimum restrictions, and to provide for public recreational needs.

Troy River Community Area

Troy is a small rural community, with a number of houses and one commercial facility. This community, designated Rural Service on the Wallowa County zoning map, is classified as River Community Area. The management goal is to protect the rural quality of the settlement while minimizing additional regulation.

Proposed Land Management Rules

I. Scenic River Area

That segment of the Grande Ronde River from Rondowa to the Umatilla National Forest boundary.

Rule: This Scenic River Area shall be administered consistent with the standards set by OAR 736-40-035 and OAR 736-40-040 (1)(b)(B) (Appendix G). In addition to these standards, all new development in resource zones (i.e. farm and forest related dwellings) shall comply with Wallowa and Union County land use regulations.

New structures and associated improvements (except as provided under OAR 736-40-030 (5)) shall be moderately screened with native vegetation and/or existing topography. If inadequate topography or vegetative screening exists on a site, the structure or improvement may be permitted if vegetation (preferably native) is established to provide moderate screening of the proposed structure or improvement within a reasonable time (4-5 years). The condition of "moderate screening" shall consist of an ample density and mixture of evergreen and deciduous vegetation to moderately obscure (at least 50%) the viewed improvement or structure, or allow a moderately filtered view (at least 50% filtering) of the proposed structure or improvement.

Visible tree harvest may be allowed provided that: 1) the operation complies with the relevant Forest Practices Act rules, 2) harvest methods with low visual impact are used and 3) the effect of the harvest enhances the scenic view within a reasonable time (5-10 years). For the purposes of this rule, "enhance" means to improve timber stand health, including reducing stand density, by emulating the mosaic character of the natural forest landscape (pre-forest management tree density patterns-prior to 1920).

New mining operations and similar improvements shall be permitted only when they are substantially screened from view from the river by topography and/or native vegetation.

If inadequate topographic or vegetative screening exists on a site, mining and similar forms of development may be permitted if vegetation is established which would provide substantial screening of the affected area. The condition of "substantial screening" shall consist of an ample density and mixture of evergreen and deciduous vegetation (preferably native) to totally obscure the altered improvement site at all stages of its development.

New roads may be permitted only when fully screened from the river by topography or existing vegetation.

Existing roads may be upgraded when those roads are moderately screened from view from the river by topography or existing vegetation. No side cast which would be visible from the river is permitted. Excess material shall be hauled to locations out of sight from the river. If inadequate screening exists, the road upgrade may be permitted if vegetation (preferably native) is established to provide moderate screening of the road within a reasonable time (4-5 years). The condition of "moderate screening" shall consist of an ample density and mixture of evergreen and deciduous vegetation (preferably native) to allow a moderately filtered view (at least 50% filtering) of the road.

Proposed utility facilities shall share existing utility corridors, and any vegetation disturbance should be kept to a minimum.

Improvements needed for public recreation use or resource protection may be visible from the river, but shall be designed to blend with the natural character of the landscape.

Whenever the standards of OAR 736-40-035 and the above rule are more restrictive than the applicable County Land Use and Development Ordinance, the above Oregon Administrative Rules shall apply.

II. Natural River Area

That segment of the Grande Ronde River from the Umatilla National Forest boundary to Wildcat Creek.

Rule: This Natural River Area shall be administered consistent with the standards set by OAR 736-40-035 and OAR 736-40-040(1)(a)(C) (Appendix G). In addition to these standards, all new development in resource zones (i.e. farm and forest related dwellings) shall comply with Wallowa and Union County land use regulations.

New structures and associated improvements shall be totally obscured from view from the river except as provided under OAR 736-40-030 (5) and except those minimal facilities needed for public outdoor recreation or resource protection.

Visible tree harvest may be allowed provided that: 1) the operation complies with the relevant Forest Practices Act rules, 2) harvest methods with low visual impact are used and 3) the effect of the harvest enhances the scenic view within a reasonable time (5-10 years). For the purposes of this rule, "enhance" means to improve timber stand health, including reducing stand density, by emulating the mosaic character of the natural forest landscape (pre-forest management tree density patterns - prior to 1920).

New roads will be permitted only when fully screened from the river by topography and/or existing vegetation.

Any existing roads, visible from the river, shall not be extended, realigned, or improved substantially. When a road is regraded, no side cast which would be visible from the river is permitted. Excess material must be hauled to locations out of sight from the river.

New mining operations and similar improvements shall be permitted only when they are substantially screened from the river by topography or existing vegetation. The condition of "substantial screening" shall consist of an ample density and mixture of evergreen and deciduous vegetation (preferably native) to totally obscure the altered improvement site at all stages of its development.

Proposed utility facilities shall share existing utility corridors, and any vegetation disturbance shall be kept to a minimum.

Improvements needed for public recreation use or resource protection may be visible from the river, but shall be primitive in character and designed to blend with the natural character of the landscape.

Whenever the standards of OAR 736-40-035 and the above rule are more restrictive than the applicable County Land Use and Development Ordinance, the above Oregon Administrative Rules shall apply.

III. Recreational River Area

That segment of the Grande Ronde River from Wildcat Creek to the Oregon State line, except for the community of Troy.

Rule: This Recreational River Area shall be administered consistent with the standards set by OAR 736-40-035 and OAR 736-40-040(1)(c)(B) (Appendix G). In addition to these standards, all new development in resource zones (i.e. farm and forest related dwellings) shall comply with Wallowa and Union County land use regulations.

New structures and associated improvements (except as provided under OAR 736-40-030 (5)) shall be partially screened with existing vegetation and/or topography. If inadequate topography or vegetative screening exists on a site, the structure or improvement may be permitted if vegetation (preferably native) is established to provide partial screening of the proposed structure or improvement within a reasonable time (4-5 years). The condition of "partial screening" shall consist of an ample density and mixture of evergreen and deciduous vegetation to partially obscure (at least 30%) the viewed improvement or structure, or allow a partially filtered view (at least 30% filtering) of the proposed structure or improvement.

Visible tree harvest may be allowed provided that: 1) the operation complies with the relevant Forest Practices Act rules, 2) harvest methods with low visual impact are used and 3) the effect of the harvest enhances the scenic view within a reasonable time (5-10 years). For the purposes of this rule, "enhance" means to improve timber stand health, including reducing stand density, by emulating the mosaic character of natural forest landscape (pre-forest management tree density patterns- prior to 1920).

New roads constructed for timber harvest, mining or any other purpose shall be moderately screened, with vegetation and/or topography. If inadequate topography or vegetative screening exists, the road may be permitted if vegetation (preferably native) is established to provide moderate screening of the road within a reasonable period time (4-5 years). The condition of "moderate screening" shall consist of an ample density and mixture of evergreen and deciduous vegetation (preferably native) to allow moderately filtered view (at least 50% filtering) of the road.

New mining operations and similar improvements shall be permitted only when they are substantially screened from view from the river by topography and/or existing vegetation. If inadequate topographic or vegetative screening exists on a site, mining and similar forms of development may be permitted if vegetation is established which would provide substantial screening of the affected area. The condition of "substantial screening" shall consist of an ample density and mixture of evergreen and deciduous vegetation (preferably native) to totally obscure the altered improvement site at all stages of its development.

Improvements needed for public recreation use or resource protection may be visible from the river, but shall be designed to blend with the natural character of the landscape.

Whenever the standards of OAR 736-40-035 and the above rule are more restrictive than the applicable County Land Use and Development Ordinance, the above Oregon Administrative Rules shall apply.

IV. Troy River Community Area

That segment of the Grande Ronde River that includes the area zoned Rural Service by Wallowa County at Troy.

Rule: This River Community Area shall be administered consistent with the standards set by OAR 736-40-035 and OAR 736-40-040 (1)(f) (Appendix G). In addition to these standards, all new development shall comply with Wallowa and Union County land use regulations.

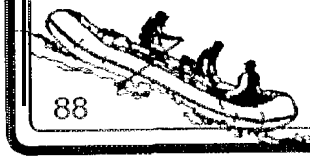
New mining operations and similar improvements shall be permitted only when they are substantially screened from view from the river by topography and/or existing vegetation. If inadequate topographic or vegetative screening exists on a site, mining and similar forms of development may be permitted if vegetation (preferably native) is established which would provide substantial screening of the affected area. The condition of "substantial screening" shall consist of an ample density and mixture of evergreen and deciduous vegetation (preferably native) to totally obscure the altered improvement site.

If land is to remain in forest use, visible timber harvest may be allowed provided that: 1) the operation complies with the relevant Forest Practices Act rules, 2) harvest methods with low visual impact are used and 3) the effect of the harvest enhances the scenic view within a reasonable time (5-10 years). For the purposes of this rule, "enhance" means to improve timber stand health, including reducing stand density, by emulating the mosaic character of the natural forest landscape (pre-forest management tree density patterns - prior to 1920).

New roads constructed for timber harvest, mining or any other purpose shall be partially screened with vegetation and/or topography.

If inadequate topography or vegetative screening exists, the road may be permitted if vegetation (preferably native) is established to provide partial screening of the road within a reasonable time (4-5 years). The condition of "partial screening" shall consist of an ample density and mixture of evergreen and deciduous vegetation (preferably native) to allow a partially filtered view (at least 30% filtering) of the road.

Improvements needed for public recreation use or resource protection may be visible from the river, but shall be designed to blend with the natural character of the landscape.



Whenever the standards of OAR 736-40-035 and the above rule are more restrictive than the applicable County Land Use and Development Ordinance, the above Oregon Administrative Rules shall apply.

Management Recommendations for the Wallowa and Grande Ronde Scenic Waterways

1. Managing agencies should identify areas which are in need of riparian vegetation protection and restoration and assist landowners in finding ways to protect and restore these areas.

2. Managing agencies should identify areas on public lands suitable for wildlife viewing improvements.

3. The Umatilla National Forest, Wallowa-Whitman National Forest and the Bureau of Land Management should provide the Oregon State Parks & Recreation Department draft plans, environmental assessments or environmental impact statements on activities that may affect the Wallowa and Grande Ronde state scenic waterways.

4. The State Parks Department shall seek the cooperation of all local, state and federal agencies in meeting the objectives of this program and complying with the State Scenic Waterway Act and State Parks Commission rules.

5. Public agencies should provide for and post standardized, well designed, boundary signs distinguishing private lands from public lands where requested and where trespass has been identified as a continual problem.

6. When a master plan is developed for the Minam Recreation Area, use of this park by bank anglers and boaters putting in to float the Wallowa/ Grande Ronde Rivers be considered in the design and provision of park improvements.

7. A Kiosk will be constructed at the boat launching site of the Minam Recreation Area when economically possible. The Kiosk have information on the state and federal protective status of the river, and how and where boater camping can occur.

CHAPTER 5 -
WASHINGTON STATE
(ASOTIN COUNTY)
SHORELINE PROGRAM

Background and Purpose

General policies and regulations cut across all uses and activities that may occur along the State's shorelines. Their importance cannot be understated. They affect all other more specific policies and regulations.

General Regulations

REGULATIONS

1. All shoreline uses, and shoreline modification activities including those that do not require a Shoreline Substantial Development Permit, must conform to the Goal Provisions, General Provisions, Environment Designation provision including the environment designation maps, Shoreline Use Provisions and Shoreline Modification Provisions.

2. Shoreline modification activities must be in support of an allowable shoreline use which conforms to the provisions of this master program. Except as otherwise noted, all shoreline modification activities not associated with a legally existing or an approved shoreline use are prohibited.

3. Shoreline uses, modification activities, and conditions listed as "prohibited" shall not be eligible for consideration as a shoreline variance or shoreline conditional use permit.

4. The "policies" listed in this master program will provide broad guidance and direction and will be used by the County in interpreting the "regulations".

5. Where provisions of this master program conflict, the more restrictive shall apply unless specifically stated otherwise.

Archaeological and Historic Resources

REGULATIONS

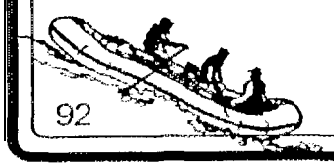
1. All shoreline permits shall contain provisions which require developers to immediately stop work and notify the County if any phenomena of possible archaeological interest is uncovered during excavations. In such cases, the developer shall be required to provide for a site inspection and evaluation by a professional archaeologist to ensure that all possible valuable archaeological data is properly salvaged.

2. Permits issued in areas known to contain archaeological artifacts and data shall include a requirement that the developer provide for a site inspection and evaluation by an archaeologist. A detailed archaeological survey of the Snake River District has been completed and is available for inquiries at Washington State University. (See Appendix A). The permit shall require approval by the County before work can begin on a project following inspection. Significant archaeological data or artifacts shall be recovered before work resumes or begins on a project.

3. Significant archaeological and historic resources shall be permanently preserved for scientific study, education and public observation. When the County determines that a site has significant archaeological, natural, scientific, or historical value, a substantial development permit shall not be insured which would pose a threat to the site. The County may require that development be postponed in such areas to allow investigation of public acquisition potential and/or retrieval and preservation of significant artifacts.

4. In the event that unforeseen factors constituting an emergency as defined in RCW 90.58.030 necessitate rapid action to retrieve or preserve artifacts or data identified above, the project may be exempted from the permit requirement of these regulations. The County shall notify the State Department of Ecology, the State Attorney General's Office of such a waiver in a timely manner.

5. Archaeological sites located both in and outside the shoreline jurisdiction are subject to RCW 2744 (Indian Graves and Records) aid RCW 2753



(Archaeological Sites and Records) and shall comply with WAC 25-48 as well as the provisions of this master program.

6. Archaeological excavations may be permitted subject to the provisions of this program.

7. Identified historical or archaeological resources shall be considered in park, open space, public access, and site planning with access to such areas designed and managed so as to give maximum protection to the resource and surrounding environment.

8. Clear interpretation of historical and archaeological features, and natural areas shall be provided when appropriate.

Clearing and Grading

Regulations

1. All clearing and grading activities shall be limited to the minimum necessary for the intended development, including residential development.

2. Clearing and grading within designated shoreline (structural) setback (or vegetation management corridor, depending on how the SMP is structured) areas shall not exceed the following maximums (all measurements taken parallel to the shoreline):

- Lots, parcels with up to 200' of shoreline frontage: 30' maximum.
- Lots, parcels with between 201' and 500' shoreline frontage: maximum of 15% of the lot frontage along a shoreline.
- Lots, parcels with over 500' lot frontage: maximum of 15% of total lot frontage provided clearing occurs in two or more segments separated by at least 100' of undisturbed area; where no one segment exceeds 75' in length long the shoreline.
- When applying the above clearing and grading standards the following plant communities shall determine in descending order of preference allowed where clearing and grading occurs. The first plant community listed indicates the most preferred location for clearing and grading:
  - grass
  - shrub/scrub
  - forest

3. Clearing and grading activities may only be permitted (landward of required setbacks) when associated with a permitted shoreline development, **Provided** that upon completion on construction remaining cleared areas shall be replanted with species contained in the county approved plant list or native species. Replanted areas shall be maintained such that within three years time the vegetation is fully reestablished.

4. Normal non-destructive pruning and trimming of vegetation for maintenance purposes shall not be subject to these clearing and grading regulations. In addition, clearing by hand held equipment of invasive non-native shoreline vegetation or plants listed on the State Noxious Weed List is permitted in shoreline locations if native vegetation is promptly reestablished in the disturbed area.

5. Conform to the standards for maximum percentage of site clearing in the Environment Designation provisions.

Environmental Impacts

Regulations

1. The location, design, construction and management of all shoreline uses and activities shall protect the quality and quantity of surface and ground water adjacent to the site and shall adhere to the guidelines, policies, standards and regulations of applicable water quality management programs and regulatory agencies.

2. Solid and liquid wastes and untreated effluent shall not be allowed to enter any bodies of water or to be discharged onto the land.

3. The release of oil, chemicals or hazardous materials onto or into the water is prohibited. Equipment for the transportation, storage, handling or application of such materials shall be maintained in a safe and leakproof condition. If there is evidence of leakage, the further use of such equipment shall be suspended until the deficiency has been satisfactorily corrected.

4. All shoreline uses and activities shall utilize effective measures to minimize any increase in surface runoff and to control, treat and release surface water runoff so that receiving water quality and shore properties and features are not adversely affected. Such measures may include but are not limited to dikes, catch basins or settling ponds, installation and required maintenance of oil/water separators, grassy swales, interceptor drains and landscaped buffers.

5. All shoreline developments and uses shall utilize effective erosion control methods during both project construction and operation.

6. All shoreline uses and activities shall be located, designed, constructed and managed to avoid disturbance of and minimize adverse impacts to fish and wildlife resources, including spawning, nesting, rearing and habitat areas, and migratory routes.

7. All shoreline and activity uses shall be located, designed, constructed and managed to minimize interference with beneficial natural shoreline processes such as water circulation, sand and gravel movement, erosion and creation.

8. All shoreline uses and activity shall be located, designed, constructed and managed in a manner that minimizes adverse impacts to surrounding land and water uses and is aesthetically compatible with the affected area.

9. Land clearing, grading, filling and alteration of natural drainage features and landforms shall be limited to the minimum necessary for development. Surface drainage systems or substantial earth modifications involving greater than 500 cubic yards of material shall be professionally designed to prevent maintenance problems or adverse impacts on shoreline features.

10. All shoreline developments shall be located, constructed and operated so as not to be a hazard to public health and safety.

11. All development activities shall be located and designed to minimize or prevent the need for shoreline defense and stabilization measures and flood protection works such as bulkheads, other bank stabilization, landfills, levees, dikes, groins, jetties or substantial site regrades.

12. Navigation channels shall be kept free of hazardous or obstructing uses and activities.

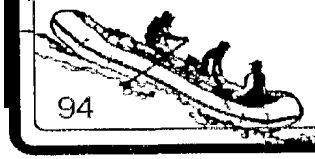
13. Herbicides and pesticides shall not be applied or allowed to directly enter water bodies or wetlands unless approved for such use by appropriate agencies (State Department of Agriculture or Ecology, U.S. Department of Agriculture, EPA).

Environmentally Sensitive Areas

Regulations

1. All shoreline uses and activities shall be located, designed, constructed and managed to protect and/or not adversely affect those natural features which are valuable, fragile or unique in the region, and to facilitate the appropriate human intensity of use of such features, including but not limited to:

a. Sloughs and marshes, bogs and swamps;
b. Fish, shellfish and wildlife habitats, migratory routes and spawning areas;
c. Accretion shore forms;
d. Natural or man-made scenic vistas for features;
e. Unstable bluffs; and
f. Floodways.



2. When a development site encompasses environmentally sensitive areas, these features shall be left intact and maintained as open space or buffers. All development shall be set back from these areas to prevent hazardous conditions and property damage, as well as to protect valuable shore features.

3. All shoreline development shall be designed in accordance with all applicable local and FEMA flood control and management codes and regulations, the State Environmental Policy Act, and other applicable local land use codes.

4. Areas with either an existing or high potential for aquaculture activities shall be protected from degradation by other types of uses which are located or are proposed to be located within one mile on the adjacent upland. A conclusive finding that such an adjacent use would result in irreparable damage to or destruction of an existing aquacultural enterprise shall be grounds for the denial of such use or activity.

5. The use of herbicides and pesticides shall be prohibited to remove noxious plants in streams and wetland areas except where no reasonable alternatives exist and it is demonstrated that such activity is in the public interest. A CUP (Conditional Use Permit) shall be required in such cases. Mechanical removal of noxious weeds shall be timed and carried out in a manner to minimize any disruption of wildlife or habitat.

Wetlands

REGULATIONS

1. For identifying and delineating a marsh, bog, or swamp, applicants shall use the Federal Manual for Identifying and Delineating Jurisdictional Wetlands.

2. No development or activity including removing or disturbing soil, filling, changing the water level, placing obstruction, constructing a structure, destroying or altering vegetation, or introducing pollutants may be permitted within a wetland or its buffer unless authorized by a conditional use permit.

3. Development or activities shall not be authorized in a wetland except where it can be demonstrated that:

a. The impact is both unavoidable and necessary;

(I) In order to demonstrate that impacts are unavoidable and necessary, the applicant must demonstrate that there are no practicable alternatives which would not involve a wetland or which would not have less adverse impact on a wetland, and would not have other significant adverse environmental consequences.

(II) Where nonwater-dependent activities are proposed, it shall be presumed that adverse impacts are avoidable. This presumption may be rebutted upon a demonstration that 1) the basic project purpose cannot reasonably be accomplished utilizing one or more other sites in the general region that would avoid, or result in less, adverse impact on a wetland ecosystem; and 2) a reduction in the size, scope, configuration, or density of the project as proposed and all alternative designs to that of the project as proposed that would avoid, or result in less, adverse impact on a aquatic ecosystem will not accomplish the basic purpose of the project: and 3) in cases where the applicant has rejected alternatives to the project as proposed due to constraints such as zoning, infrastructure, or parcel size, the applicant has made reasonable attempt to remove or accommodate such constraints.

b. Unavoidable and necessary impacts are offset through the deliberate restoration, creation, or enhancement of wetland of equivalent or greater resource value, including acreage and function;

c. The restored, created, or enhanced wetland will be as persistent the wetland it replaces; and

d. The applicant demonstrates sufficient scientific expertise, supervisory capability, and financial resources to carry out the proposed replacement activity.

4. For wetlands of exceptional resource value, the applicant, in addition to complying with the provisions above, shall demonstrate that there is a compelling public need for the proposed activity or that denial of the permit would impose an extraordinary hardship on the part of the applicant brought about by circumstances peculiar to the subject property.

5. In-kind replacement of functional values shall be provided, unless it is found that in-kind replacement is not feasible or practical due to the characteristics of the existing wetland and a greater benefit can be demonstrated

by an alternative. In such cases, substitute resources of equal or greater ecological value shall be provided.

6. Wetland functional values shall be calculated using the best professional judgement of a qualified wetland ecologist using the best available technology.

7. On-site replacement shall be provided, unless it is found that On-site replacement is not feasible or practical due to physical features of the property and a greater benefit can be demonstrated by an alternative. In such cases, replacement shall occur within the same watershed and proximity.

8. At a minimum, wetland acreage shall be replaced at a ratio of acreage replaced to acreage lost of 1.25:1. For wetlands of exceptional resource value, the minimum acreage replacement ratio shall be 6:1. Actual replacement acreage will be determined case-by-case, based on the following criteria:

a. Projected losses or gains in functional value;
b. Location of replacement wetlands;
c. The time required to reestablish lost functions;
d. The uncertainty of the probable success of the project; and
e. The type of compensation, enhancement proposals shall require twice the acreage replacement as restoration and creation proposals;
f. Variety of the wetland typing being impacted.

9. Where it is found through special studies coordinated with agencies with expertise that no net loss of wetland function results, acreage replacement may be authorized at 1:1.

10. Replacement wetlands shall be completed prior to or concurrent with wetland alteration, and immediately after activities that will temporarily disturb wetlands activities.

11. A compensation plan shall be required for developments or activities which result in unavoidable and necessary wetlands alterations. The plan shall include the following elements:

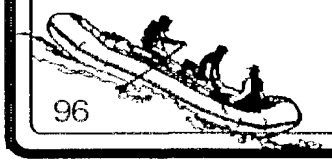
a. Baseline information for the impacted wetland and the proposed replacement site;
b. Environmental goals and objectives describing the purposes of the mitigation measures, a description of the site selection criteria, and identification of target evaluation species and resource functions;
c. Performance standards including specific criteria for fulfilling goals and objectives, and for beginning remedial action or contingency measures;
d. Detail construction plan including work schedule, vegetation information, buffers, estimated cost, site plan with contours and elevation and other information.
e. Monitoring program outlining the approach for assessing a completed project over a five year period. A report shall be submitted annually, at a minimum documenting milestones, success, problems, and contingency actions; and
f. Contingency plan identifying potential courses of action, and any corrective measure to be taken when monitoring or evaluation indications project performance standard are not being met.

12. Where restoration, creation, or enhancement activities are proposed, the applicant shall be required to:

a. File a performance bond in an amount to enable the regular authority to carry out the compensation plan should the applicant fail to do so; and
b. Compensation areas shall be permanently protected through legal instruments such as sensitive area tracts, conservation easements, or a comparable use restriction.

13. A wetland buffer zone of 200 feet shall be required adjacent to wetland areas of exceptional resource value unless a greater distance is required by other provisions of this program. For all other wetland systems, a wetland buffer zone of 200 feet shall be required, except that buffer's less than 200 feet but no less than 100 feet may be authorized as a conditional use.

14. Wetland buffer zones shall be retained in their natural condition. Where buffer disturbance has occurred during construction, revegetation with native vegetation may be required. Developments and activities shall not be allowed within the buffer except for:



a. Minor activities which are found to have no adverse impact on the wetland functions or integrity;
b. Stormwater management facilities having no feasible alternative location outside of the buffer; or
c. Linear developments having no feasible alternative location outside of the buffer.

15. The location of all required buffer zones shall be clearly and permanently marked on any project site prior to initiation of site work.

Parking

REGULATIONS

1. Parking in shoreline jurisdiction shall directly serve a use.

2. Parking facilities shall be designed and landscaped to minimize adverse impacts upon adjacent shoreline and abutting properties. Landscaping shall consist of native vegetation and be planted before completion of the parking area in such a manner that plantings provide effective screening within 3 years of project completion.

3. Parking facilities serving individual buildings on the shoreline shall be located landward from the principal building being served. EXCEPT when the parking facility is within or beneath the structure and adequately screened, or in cases when an alternate orientation would have less adverse impact on the shoreline or as amended in the Environmental Designation Provisions.

4. Parking facilities for shoreline activities shall provide safe and convenient pedestrian circulation within the parking area and to the shorelines.

5. Parking facilities shall provide adequate facilities to control surface water runoff from contaminating water bodies, using the best available technologies and include a maintenance program that will assure proper functioning of such facilities over time.

Public Access

REGULATIONS

1. In the review of all shoreline substantial development or conditional use permits, consideration of public access shall be required. Provisions for adequate public access shall be incorporated into a shoreline development proposal (including land division unless the applicant demonstrates one or more of the following provisions apply:
   a. Unavoidable health or safety hazards to the public exist which cannot be prevented by any practical means;
   b. Inherent security requirements of the use cannot be satisfied through the application of alternative design features or other solutions;
   c. The cost of providing the access, easement, or an alternative amenity is unreasonable disproportionate to the total long-term cost of the proposed development;
   d. Unacceptable environmental harm will result from the public access which cannot be mitigated; or
   e. Significant undue and unavoidable conflict between any access provisions and the proposed use and/or adjacent uses would occur and cannot be mitigated. Provided that the applicant has first demonstrated and the County has determined in its findings that all reasonable alternatives have been exhausted, including but not limited to:
   f. Regulating access by such means as maintaining a gate and/or limiting hours of use;
   g. Designing separation of uses and activities (e.g. fences, terracing, use of one-way glazing, hedges, landscaping, etc.); and
   h. Provisions for access at a site geographically separated from the proposal such as a street end, vista of trail system.

2. Development uses and activities shall be designed and operated to avoid blocking, reducing, or adversely interfering with the public's physical access to the water and shorelines.

3. Public access provided by shoreline street ends, public utilities and right-of-way shall not be diminished (RCW 35.797.035 and RCW 36.87.130).

4. Public access sites shall be connected directly to the nearest public street and shall include provisions for handicapped and physically impaired persons, where feasible.

5. Required public access sites shall be fully developed and available for public use at the time of occupancy of the use or activity.

6. Public access easements and permit conditions shall be recorded on the deed of title and/or on the face of a plat or short plat as a condition running contemporaneous with the authorized land use, as a minimum. Said recording with the County Auditor's Office shall occur at the time of permit approval (RCW 58.17.110).

7. Minimum width of public access easements shall be a minimum of 8 feet, unless the administrator determines that undue hardship would result. In such cases, easement width may be reduced only to the minimum extent necessary to relieve the hardship.

8. The standard of approved logo or other approved signs that indicate the public's rights of access and hours of access shall be constructed, installed and maintained by the applicant in conspicuous locations at public access sites. In accordance with regulation 1 (f), signs may control or restrict public access as a condition of permit approval.

9. Future actions by the applicant successors in interest of other parties shall not diminish the usefulness or value of the public access provided.

Signage

Regulations

1. Sign plans and designs shall be submitted for review and approval at the time of shoreline permit approval.

2. All signs shall be located and designed to minimize interference with vistas, viewpoints, and visual access to the shoreline.

3. Over-water signs or signs on floats or pilings shall be related to water-dependant uses only.

4. Lighted signs shall be hooded, shaded, or aimed so that direct light will not result in glare when viewing from surrounding properties or watercourses.

5. Signs related to specific on-site uses or activities shall not exceed 32 square feet in surface area. On-site freestanding signs shall not exceed 6 feet in height. When feasible, signs shall be flush-mounted against existing buildings.

6. Temporary or obsolete signs shall be removed within ten (10) days of elections, closures of businesses, or termination for any other function. Examples of temporary signs include; real estate signs, directions to events, political advertisements, event or holiday signs, and construction signs.

7. Signs that do not meet the policies and regulations of this program shall be removed or conform within two (2) years of the adoption of this master program.

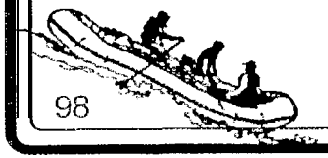
8. No signs shall be placed in a required view corridor.

Utilities (Accessory)

Regulations

1. In shoreline areas, utility transmission lines, pipelines and cable shall be placed underground unless demonstrated to be infeasible. Further, such lines shall utilize existing rights-of-way, corridors and/or bridge crossings whenever possible. Proposals for new corridors in shoreline areas involving water crossings must fully substantiate the infeasibility of existing routes.

2. Utility development shall, through coordinating with government agencies, provide for compatible multiple use of sites and right-of-way. Such uses include shoreline access points, trails and other forms of recreation and



transportation systems, providing such uses will not unduly interfere with utility operations or endanger public health and safety.

View Protection

Regulations

1. Shoreline uses and activities shall be designed and operated to avoid blocking, reducing, or adversely interfering with the public's visual access to the water and shorelines.

2. Public lands such as street ends, rights-of-way, and utilities shall provide visual access to the water and shoreline in accordance with RCW 35.79.035 and RCW 36.87.130 (See Shoreline Public Access Handbook).

3. Submerged public rights-of-way shall be preserved for visual access

4. In providing visual access to the shoreline, the natural vegetation shall not be excessively removed either by clearing or by topping (See Clearing and Grading).

5. Development on or over the water shall be constructed as far landward as possible to avoid interference with views from surrounding properties to the shoreline and adjoining waters.

6. Marinas with covered boathouses shall limit their height above mean water level (See Environmental Designations - Matrix in master document).

7. Development on the water shall be constructed of non-reflective materials that are compatible in terms of color and texture with the surrounding area.

Water Quality

Regulations

1. All shoreline development shall minimize any increase in surface runoff so that the receiving water quality and shore properties and features are not adversely effected. Control measures include but are not limited to dikes, catch basins or settling ponds, oil interceptor drains, grassy swales, planted buffers, and fugitive dust controls.

2. The local government and proposed shoreline uses and activities shall mitigate reduced water quality by erosion of rivers and stream systems by increasing storage of runoff peaks utilizing the hydraulic storage capacity of floodways and wetlands.

3. The County shall require setbacks, buffers and storage basins for all industrial, commercial, residential, recreational and agricultural use (refer to Specific Use and Environmental Designations chapter in master document for specific limits).

Vegetative Management

Regulations

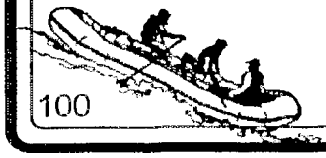
1. All unique and fragile shoreline shall be protected from degradation caused by the modification of the land surface within the shoreline area and/or the adjacent uplands, (See Site Specific Environment Designations in master document).

2. Wherever possible, development of commercial, industrial, residential and/or recreational shall be located away from the shoreline that has been identified as unstable and/or sensitive to erosion, (See Site Specific Environment Designations in master document).

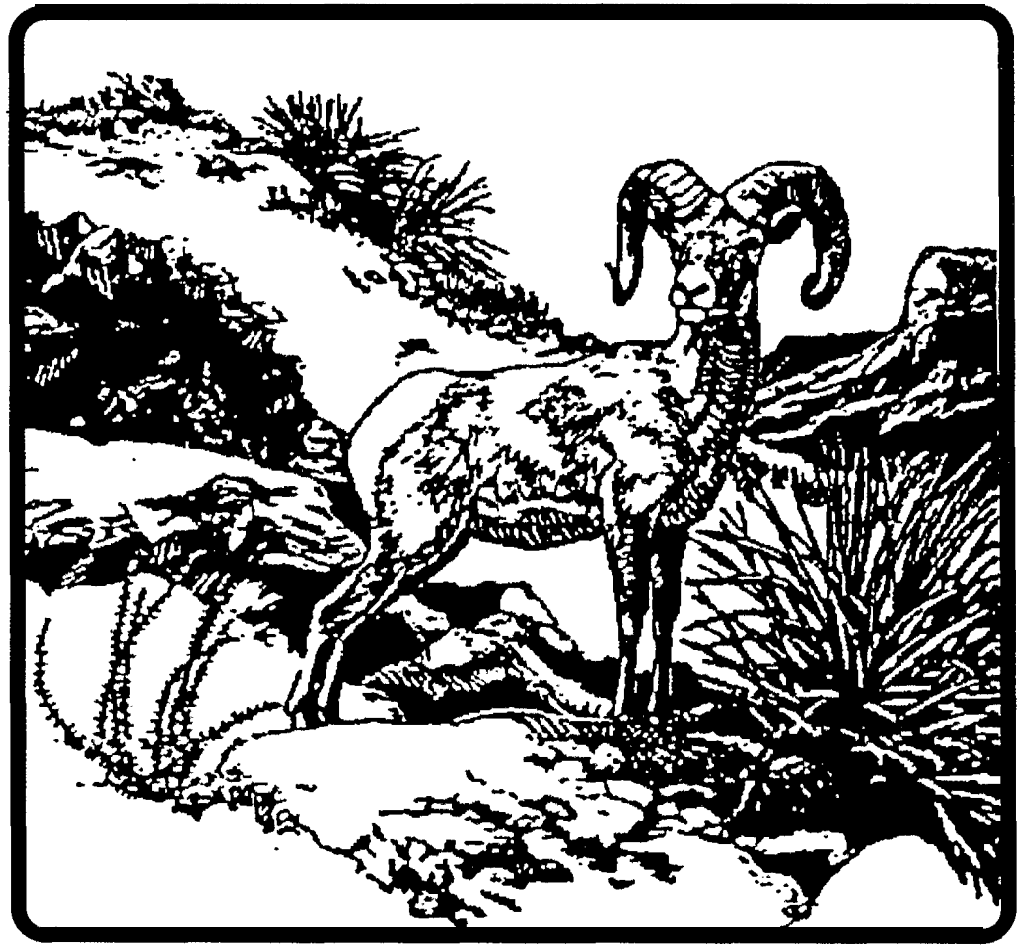
3. The restoration of any shoreline that has been disturbed or degraded shall use native plant materials with a similar diversity and structure as what was originally occurring.

4. The use of commercial nursery stock in the restoration of disturbed or degraded shorelines shall emulate the previously existing vegetation in both size, structure, and diversity at maturation.

5. Stabilization of exposed erosional surfaces along shorelines including but not limited to rivers and streams shall, whenever feasible utilize soil bioengineering techniques.



CHAPTER 6 -
COST AND IMPLEMENTATION



Fiscal Requirements

The management actions listed in the various ranges of alternatives on the three river segments in this plan have been combined into four main categories for budgeting purposes. These cost targets are both BLM and Forest Service funding requirements and are based on Fiscal Year 1992 dollar values. It provides a range of cost option averages that establishes a framework for detailed budget submissions on an annual basis. The four categories include; 1) Land Acquisition (purchase, exchange, donation or easements), 2) Annual Operation and Maintenance, 3) Program Management, and 4) Facility Development.

Land Acquisition

There are approximately 28,800 acres of public and private land within the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers Corridor. Of this acreage, and estimated 12,400 acres is in private ownership with the balance of 16,400 acres in state or federal ownership. The land acquisition program is based on the willing seller concept and is prioritized as follows:

Priority 1 - Those lands within the designated segment of the Grande Ronde from Rondowa to the Oregon/Washington stateline. It is the priority of this segment to acquire undeveloped lands to protect the Outstandingly Remarkable Values for which Congress designated the river.

Priority 2 - Those lands within the Wallowa River from Minam to Rondowa. It is the priority of this segment to acquire undeveloped lands to protect the corridor values for which Congress designated it as a study river.

Priority 3 - Those lands within the Grande Ronde River from the Washington/ Oregon stateline to Heller Bar. It is the priority of this segment to acquire undeveloped lands to protect corridor natural values as identified in the Baker Resource Management Plan and the Asotin County Shoreline Plan.

For those private lands within each of the above segments, the following criteria will be utilized to determine easement/acquisition priorities:

·Those lands containing Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV's) i.e. scenic, recreational, fisheries habitat, wildlife habitat, and cultural resources.

·Those lands that are adjacent to the river, are flat, and are accessible from the river.

·Those lands that contain a high potential for commercial development which if developed, would degrade the values for which Congress designated the river.

·Those lands that provide for public access to the river in high use recreation areas.

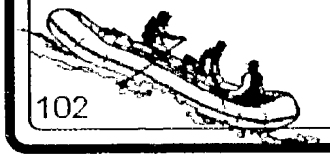
This criteria serves only to direct the development of acquisition, easement studies, and funding, and is not meant to be the sole criteria under consideration.

Annual Operation and Maintenance

This category includes maintenance of over 224 campsites, river access facilities at Minam, Mud Creek, Boggan's, and Heller Bar, and the river ranger station at Minam. Annual operation and maintenance funding for the Wallowa/Grande Ronde corridor, including the monitoring program as identified in Table 14, ranges from $90,000 annually at the custodial level to $185,000 annually at the full development level.

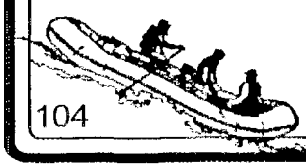
Annual Program Management

Funding includes development of information/education programs, monitoring programs, maps and brochures, permit systems, vehicle costs, equipment charges, and school curriculums. Annual program management funding requirements range from $20,000 annually at the custodial level to $130,000 annually at the full development level.

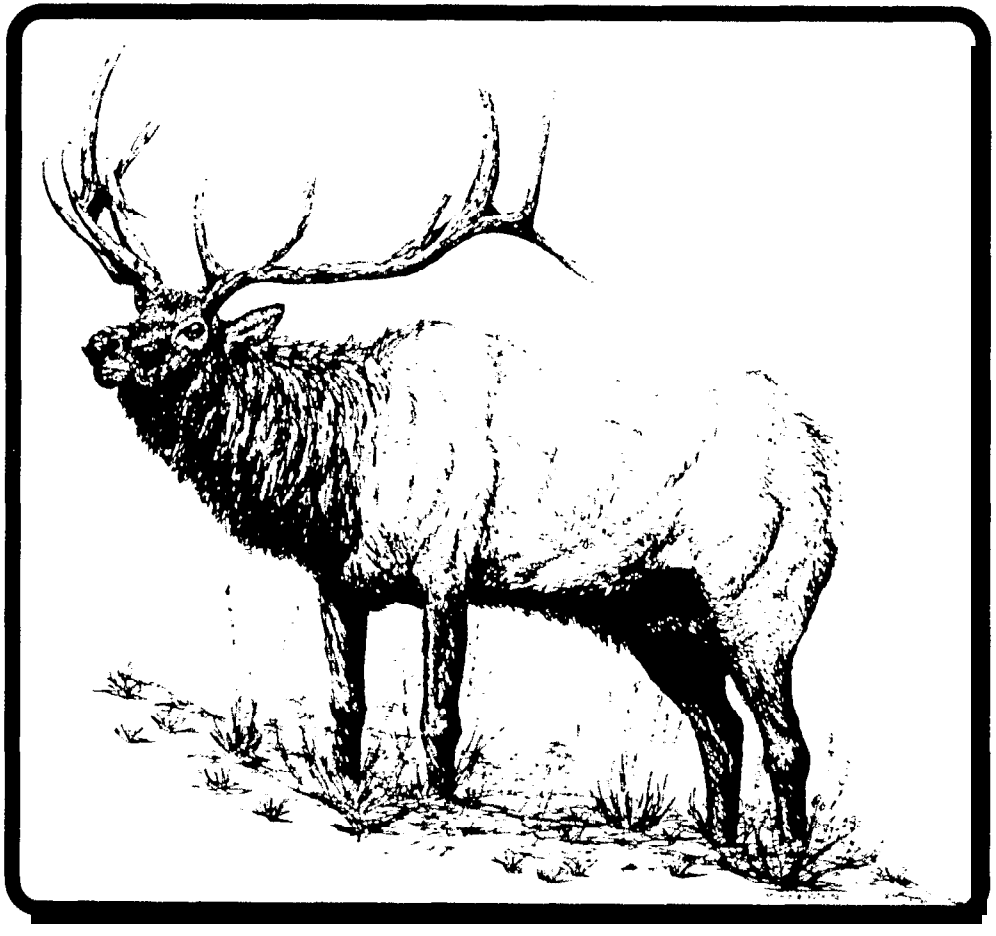


Facility Development

This category includes the survey, design, and construction of river related recreational facilities, including trails, river access developments, administrative facilities, signing, and trash and waste disposal facilities. Annual facility development funding requirements depend on project submissions and approvals for any given fiscal year. Development of facilities range from small signing projects of $3,000 to full camp ground development of over $1.3 million.



CHAPTER 7 -
ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS



Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact Environmental Assessment for the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers Management Plan

USDI Bureau of Land Management
Vale District
Baker Resource Area

Wallowa and Union Counties, Oregon
Asotin County, Washington

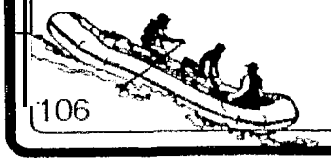
The Omnibus Oregon Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1988 directed the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and Forest Service (FS) to develop a management plan for the designated portion of the Grande Ronde River and at the same time directed the FS to conduct an eligibility/suitability study on the Wallowa River to determine its status for National designation. The lower 36 miles of the Grande Ronde River in Washington is presently not managed as, or listed as a study river under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. However, the Washington Legislature is considering the Washington segment of the Grande Ronde for Wild and Scenic River nomination. These three river segments are currently managed as one river corridor under the direction of the Baker Resource Management Plan (BLM) and the Forest Plans of the Umatilla and Wallowa-Whitman National Forests. A portion of Wallowa Study River and Grande Ronde Wild and Scenic River was also included in the Oregon Scenic Waterways program via 1988 Ballot Measure #7 (Oregon Rivers Initiative). This program, established in 1970 by the State of Oregon, is administered through the State Parks and Recreation Department. The Oregon Scenic Waterways Program also requires that a management plan be made. Early in the process, all three agencies agreed that one plan should be made which encompasses the whole river and meets the planning requirements for each agency.

The Environmental Analysis for the Wallowa/Grande Ronde River Management Plan documents the results of the analysis of alternatives for managing the designated segments of the rivers, including the effects of each alternative. This Decision Notice established the final boundaries for the designated segment of the Grande Ronde National Wild and Scenic River and adopts a plan for management of the area within those boundaries. The management plan is designed to protect and enhance the river's values.

The Plan describes the conditions which need to be achieved and/or maintained in order to protect the river's values, and prescribes standards and guidelines to govern activities within the boundaries that could affect the river's values. It also establishes a program for monitoring activities within the area to be sure that management direction is followed and the desired results are achieved.

The level of planning of this document provides the framework and authority for site specific planning within the river corridor. Site specific project planning such as survey and design of road and trail access, staging areas, riparian enhancement projects, livestock management projects, water developments, signing projects, cultural resource protection projects, wildlife habitat projects, reclamation projects, etc., will meet the protection and/or enhancement criteria of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, the Oregon State Scenic Waterways Act, and the Washington State Shoreline Act as directed by this plan.

Although the Plan establishes standards and guidelines, monitoring elements, and potential projects, accomplishment will depend on budget allocations. If budget allocations are insufficient, activities proposed in the Plan may need to be rescheduled. Insufficient budgets over a period of several years could cause an inability to implement proposed activities, to apply standards and guidelines, and to achieve some of the desired conditions.



The Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Wallowa/Grande Ronde River Management Plan on the Vale District of the Bureau of Land Management is enclosed in this document as Chapter 7 for public review. The EA is also available for public review of at the Vale District Office in Vale, Oregon, and the Baker Resource Area Office in Baker City, Oregon. The selected alternatives described below for each of the three river segments appends the Baker Resource Management Plan (RMP).

DECISION

As the Area Manager for the Baker Resource Area of the Vale District, Bureau of Land Management, it is my decision to implement alternative A for the Wallowa Segment, alternative B for the Grande Ronde Wild and Scenic River Segment, and alternative B for the Washington Segment.

These alternatives delineate a final river boundary, identify specific actions, and provide a detailed monitoring plan for the implementation of the river plan. The selected alternatives prescribe the following activities:

Wallowa River Segment

Alternative A: Protect and Enhance those values on the Wallowa River that are being considered under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, fully recognizing private landowner interest and rights consistent with the Act.

- Will not actively pursue acquisitions except from willing parties.
- Enhance Study River values on Public Land and Waters.
- County/State regulations apply on private land.
- Reduce impact/conflicts of recreation use on private land in River corridor.

Grande Ronde Wild and Scenic River Segment

Alternative B: Protect and Enhance ORV's on the Grande Ronde River while recognizing private landowner interests and rights consistent with the Act.

County and State regulations apply on private land

- Meet legal requirements (protection and/or enhancement) on private land with minimum use of regulations.
- Reduce impacts/conflicts of recreation use of private land in Wild and Scenic Rivers corridor.
- Land owner assistance for ORV enhancement.
- Will not actively pursue acquisition/easements except from willing parties.
- Emphasize multiple use of river corridor resource.
- No restriction on search and rescue techniques within corridor.
- Implement State Scenic Waterway Administrative Rules for river corridor.
- Develop intense Information and Education Program for all river users.
- Provide specific management direction for anadromous and resident fish programs.
- Restrict motorized water craft from river from Umatilla Forest Boundary to Oregon/Washington stateline.
- Establish citizens team to assist agencies in river management issues.
- Resolve conflicts on private land by starting at the local jurisdictional level.

Washington River Segment

Alternative B: Protect and/or enhance natural values while recognizing private landowner interests and rights.

Public agencies will not actively pursue acquisitions/easements except from willing parties.

- Enhance river values on public land and waters.
- Pursue assistance for resource improvements on private land at owner request.
- County/State regulations apply on private land.
- Meet legal requirements on private land with minimum use of regulations.
- Promote recreational activities and develop facilities which are compatible with the present physical and social character of the corridor.
- Reduce impact/conflicts of recreation use on private land in corridor.
- Develop and implement public information and education materials and programs for interpretation and proper use of the corridor.

ALTERNATIVES

I considered the following segment alternatives before selecting alternative A- for the Wallowa Study Segment, B-for the Grande Ronde Designated Segment. and B-for the Grande Ronde Washington Segment.

Wallowa River Segment

Alternative B: Protect and Enhance Study River Values.

- Actively pursue land acquisition.
- Enhance river values within corridor regardless of land ownership.
- Develop intensive information and education programs.
- Utilize social factors as "limiting" factors for carrying capacity.
- Promote types of recreation use according to river segment classification.

Alternative C: Protect and Enhance Study River Values with emphasis on Naturalness (Wildlife/Fisheries/Vegetation).

- Manage to "Primitive" end of spectrum for Recreation.
- Biological factors determine carrying capacity.
- Actively pursue acquisitions.
- Regulate commodity uses.
- Limit access and developments.
- Maximize challenges and self reliance.
- Restrictions on public use of public and private land.

Alternative D: No Action plus meeting minimum legislative intent.

- No planned enhancement of Study River Values.
- Allow level and degree of existing uses to continue.
- Meet legal requirement with minimum use of regulations.
- No acquisition of rights by condemnation.

Grande Ronde Wild and Scenic River Segment

Alternative A: Maximize Multiple Use within the parameters of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

- Protect ORV's.
- Increase Recreation (High Intensity Developments)
- Increase multiple use developments to support commodity uses.
- Manage to "Urban" end of spectrum for recreation.
- Emphasis on Tourism, Economics, Social Services
- Develop additional trail and road access.
- Will not actively pursue land acquisition.

Alternative C: Protect and Enhance ORV's with emphasis on recreation.

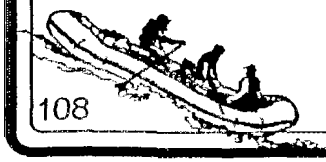
- Actively pursue acquisition.
- Enhance all ORV's within corridor regardless of land ownership.
- Develop intense information and education programs.
- Utilize Social Factors as the "limiting" factors for carrying capacity.
- Promote types of recreation use according to river segment classification.

Alternative D: Protect and Enhance ORVs with emphasis on Naturalness (Wildlife/Fisheries/Vegetation)

- Cater to "Primitive" end of spectrum for Recreation.
- Biological factors determine carrying capacity.
- Actively pursue acquisitions
- Regulate commodity uses.
- Limit access and developments.
- Maximize challenges and self reliance.
- Restrictions on public use of public and private land.

Alternative E: No Action plus meeting minimum legislative intention.

- Protection and/or enhancement of ORVs.
- Allow level and degree of existing uses to continue.
- Meet legal requirement with minimum use of regulations.



- No acquisition of fee title by condemnation.
- Will not actively pursue land acquisition.

Washington Segment

Alternative A: Promote maximum resource utilization within the parameters of local, state, & federal law, regulations, and/or policy within the river corridor.

Protect River Values.
- Utilize Physical Factors as limiting factors for carrying capacity.
- Emphasize Highly Developed Recreation.
- Emphasize Multiple Resource Facilities & Service Developments
- Emphasize Economic Potential of the Resource.
- Develop additional Road & Trail access.
- Will not actively pursue land acquisition.

Alternative C: Protect and enhance natural values. Emphasize recreation opportunities compatible with resource protection.

Actively pursue land acquisition.
Enhance River Values within corridor regardless of land ownership
Develop intensive info-education programs.
Utilize Social Factors as "limiting" factors for carrying capacity.
Encourage low-impact recreation uses/activities.
Regulate commodity uses.
Limit access and developments.

Alternative D: No Action beyond present management direction from various agencies.

No planned enhancement of River Values.
- Meet legal requirement with minimum use of regulations.
- Level and degree of existing uses neither discouraged or encouraged.
- Low priority for acquisition of easements or lands.

RATIONAL FOR THE DECISION

I selected alternatives A, B, and B, because they prescribe the best mix of activities to achieve the project objectives and attain the desired condition.

Of the thirteen alternatives, alternatives A, B, and B, provide for the best opportunity to protect and enhance all of the Outstandingly Remarkable Values, protect free flow, and protect water quality while minimizing the impacts to private landowners.

SCOPING AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Extensive public involvement has occurred since the Wallowa/Grande Ronde River planning process began in 1988. Several groups of volunteers contributed a large amount of time and effort in the initial stages of the process. A series of 16 meetings were held to begin identifying issues for each river segment. Many members of the public participated in these early scoping meetings. Meetings were held in Baker City, Oregon, LaGrande, Oregon; Troy, Oregon; Enterprise, Oregon; Richland, Oregon; Ukiah, Oregon; Pendleton, Oregon; Imnaha, Oregon; and Clarkston, Washington. Approximately 600 people attended these scoping meetings, providing the BLM and Forest Service with an extensive list of issues and concerns to be addressed during the planning effort. Coupled with the public scoping meetings, approximately 2,500 interest cards were mailed to individuals, groups, and agencies along with numerous letters and telephone calls, seeking input to the development of this plan. On April 15, 1992, approximately 1,500 letters of availability for a copy of the draft plan/environmental assessment were mailed to those individuals, groups, and agencies that responded affirmatively to an earlier 2,500 mailing. These contacts represent a large cross section of interested river publics.

In 1989, the BLM established two citizens Ad Hoc Work Groups, one in Oregon and one in Washington to provide planning direction for the development of the Wallowa/Grande Ronde River Management plan. These teams consisted of representatives from state agencies, county government, Indian Nations, local communities, conservation groups, forest industries, agricultural

industries, commercial outfitters, noncommercial recreation groups, and private landowners. The two citizens teams have spent many hours of volunteer time meeting with their constituents, attending team meetings, developing plan objectives, formulating issues and management alternatives. The teams have met 34 times in different locals from Joseph, Oregon to Asotin, Washington, providing the agencies with invaluable assistance in developing the Wallowa/Grande Ronde River Management Plan.

During this same period, the Forest Service, Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, established an Ad-Hoc citizens team to assist them in the development of a Suitability/Eligibility Study for the Wallowa River from Minam to Rondowa, under the direction of the 1988 Rivers Act. The study was independent of this management plan. However, the issues identified under the Wallowa River segment of this plan, and many of the management actions, are a direct result of input from this study group.

ISSUES

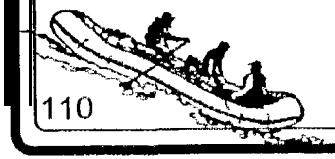
Two broad themes emerged from the public comment and underlie the identification of the issues. One body of interested citizens tended to emphasize protection and enhancement of the free flowing character and ORVs, as described under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Acts. These groups and individuals expressed concerns about providing for water related recreation experiences, allowing access to these opportunities, enhancing the fisheries resources, protecting the scenic, and wildlife resource and providing for diversity. Many of these people support activities that enhance supplies of cool, clean water, river corridor easements for improved public access, recreation opportunities, cultural resource protection, vegetative practices that maintain or support wildlife, scenery, and riparian habitats. They see a need for management of the river corridor and surrounding lands in the Wild and Scenic River section to minimize development and commodity activities while allowing for more natural processes.

Another body of concerned groups and individuals focused on the potential impacts that river management may have on opportunities to use lands and resources. They expressed concerns that undue constraints or restrictions resulting from Wild and Scenic River management direction prohibit, reduce, or substantially change a variety of ongoing activities. These include timber harvest (timber supply reductions), livestock grazing, agricultural practices in surrounding or upstream areas, mineral extractions, water use and allocation, use of land for transportation and utility corridors and other activities. Many local landowners and others were concerned about landowner rights such as the ability to develop and manage private property, land acquisitions, water rights, direct impacts to private lands from recreationists and others, and additional access provisions. Many saw a direct or implied threat to their traditional life-styles and way of life, to the economic well being of individuals, and viability of communities, and to the economic and social values of the region. Most of these people support options that maintain or enhance traditional commodity uses; they want to minimize impacts to economic and social outputs and private land uses.

MONITORING

Monitoring and evaluation will be based on concepts taken from the Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC) process. LAC is a process for establishing acceptable and appropriate conditions, which can then be monitored to help management strategies for the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers. LAC is based on the premise that change to the ecological and social conditions of an area will occur as a result of natural and human factors. The goal of management is to keep the character and rate of change due to human factors within acceptable levels and consistent with the objectives of the plan.

The primary emphasis of the LAC system is on the conditions desired, rather than on how much use or abuse an area can tolerate. The management challenge is not one of how to prevent any human-induced change in the planning area, but rather one of deciding what changes should occur, how much change will be allowed, what management actions are needed to guide and control it and how the managing agencies will know when the established limits are being or have been reached.



Once in place and functioning, the mechanics of the LAC system can alert the managing agencies to unacceptable change in the Wallowa/Grande Ronde River Canyon before it is too late to react. For each river value to be monitored, one or more key indicators are selected which allow the managing agencies to keep their "thumb on the pulse" of that aspect of the ecosystem or social setting. For each key indicator, a standard is set. This is the threshold value which determines the amount of change that is either desired or will be accepted. The purpose of the indicators and standards is to provide managers with a tool to determine if the resource values and opportunities they are trying to mange for are actually being provided. The standards serve as "triggers" which cause predetermined management actions to be implemented by the managing agencies when the limit is being approached.

Monitoring will be the foundation for the long-term protection and enhancement of the primary river-related values in the Wallowa/Grande Ronde River Canyon. It must, however, be flexible enough to allow for unique site specific situations, provide ample opportunity for public involvement and be cost effective.

SPECIFICALLY REQUIRED DISCLOSURES

There are no unavoidable, adverse effects associated with implementing alternatives A, B, and B, that are not already identified in the Final EIS for the Baker RMP.

There are no short-term uses proposed in the project. Promoting long-term health and productivity of the Forest's ecosystems is a project objective.

There are no irreversible or irretrievable losses from implementing alternatives A, B, and B, that are not already identified in the Final EIS for the Baker RMP.

There are no unusual energy requirements associated with implementing alternatives A, B, and B.

There are no specific projects planned within wetlands or floodplains.

The management plan will cause no adverse effects to any Threatened or Endangered species or critical habitat; prime farmland, rangeland, or forest land; cultural resources; or civil rights, women, and minorities not already identified in the Final EIS for the Baker RMP.

RELATIONSHIP WITH OREGON STATE SCENIC WATERWAY ACT

The Wallowa/Grande Ronde River is also a State Scenic Waterway from Minam to the Oregon/Washington state line. The State Scenic Waterway program is administered by the Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department. State Parks has worked cooperatively with the BLM and Forest Service to identify the special values of the Wallowa/Grande Ronde River and to determine a best course of action for their protection as related to the State Scenic Waterway program.

The environmental assessment analyzes the consequences of alternative management regimes for the federal designated portion of the Wallowa/Grande Ronde River. This decision, for the entire Wallowa/Grande Ronde River corridor, provides protection of river-related values at a level that meets or exceeds the goals of the State Scenic Waterway program. To serve the public, the Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service and Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department have cooperatively developed a joint River Management Plan. The River Management Plan displays information related to management of the Federal and State portions of the River and includes the State's proposed river classifications and rules of land management.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Following a review of the environmental assessment, I have determined that this is not a major federal action that will significantly affect the quality of the human environment. Therefore, an environmental impact statement is not necessary and will not be prepared. This determination is based on the following consideration:

1. Irreversible and irretrievable commitments of resources and adverse cumulative or secondary effects will not exceed those discussed and evaluated

in the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Baker Resource Management Plan.

2. Direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental impacts were analyzed and disclosed in the Environmental Assessment, and were not found to be significant.

3. There will be no significant impacts to wetlands, floodplains, prime farmlands, range lands, minority groups, women, or consumers.

4. Activities planned in the river corridor will not adversely affect the environment beyond or down river from the designated corridor.

5. River Management Plan direction is not expected to cause any adverse impacts to any threatened, endangered, or sensitive plant or animal species. Site-specific biological evaluations will be done for specific projects planned in the corridor.

6. The River Management Plan is in compliance with relevant federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and requirements designed for the protection of the environment. The River Management Plan meets the States of Oregon and Washington water and air quality standards.

FINDINGS REQUIRED BY OTHER LANDS

The River Management Plan and Environmental Assessment meet all requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA); Federal Land Policy Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA); the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968; and all other applicable laws.

Site-specific surveys for Threatened, Endangered and Sensitive (T,E, and S) species and appropriate interagency consultation will be conducted for any proposed project. The river corridor is not included in U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Critical Habitat Areas or in Interagency Scientific Committee Habitat Conservation Areas.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

Implementation of this decision shall not occur within 30 days following publication of the legal notice of the decision in the Oregonian newspaper.

RIGHT TO PROTEST

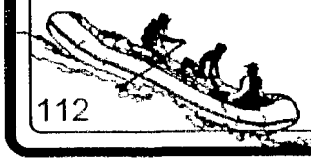
Beginning on February 1, 1994 through March 17, 1994 (45 days) you have the right to protest to the Vale District Manager (and there after appeal to the Board of Land Appeals, Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of the Interior), in accordance with the regulations of 43 Code of Federal Regulations 43 CFR 4.21. Any protest to the Vale District Manager must be filed in writing in the Vale District BLM Office, 100 Oregon Street, Vale Oregon, 97918. If no protest or appeals are filed this decision will become affective and be implemented at the end of the 45 day period.

CONTACT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information regarding the Wallowa/Grande Ronde River Management Plan, contact Gerry Meyer, Recreation Planner at the Baker Resource Area Office, P.O. Box 987, Baker City, Oregon 97814 or telephone (503) 523-6391.

Dorothy Mason
Acting Area Manager
Bureau of Land Management

December 15, 1993
Date



Decision Notice and Finding Of No Significant Impact National Forest Administered Portion of the Grande Ronde Wild and Scenic River Management Plan Forest Plan Amendment

USDA - Forest Service
Umatilla and Wallowa-Whitman National Forests
Walla Walla and Wallowa Valley Ranger Districts

Wallowa County, Oregon

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Forest Service (FS), and Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department have worked cooperatively to prepare an environmental assessment and management plan for the designated Grande Ronde (and Wallowa) Wild and Scenic River. The management plan is required by the Omnibus Oregon Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1988 and Oregon State Scenic Waterways program. Early in the planning process, the three agencies with responsibility for management of the river agreed that one plan should be developed for the entire river, with the BLM as the lead agency.

This Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) documents the Forest Service Decision to implement a management plan and final boundary for the part of the Grande Ronde Wild and Scenic River administered by the Forest Service (see below) under the Omnibus Oregon Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. The process and analysis for arriving at the decision is described in the Environmental Analysis (EA) supporting the management plan decision. The EA contains alternatives for managing the river in accordance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 and other appropriate laws. The selected management plan amends the Forest Plans for the Umatilla and Wallowa-Whitman National Forests.

The decision is applicable to the section of river and adjacent lands beginning at the confluence of the Wallowa and Grande Ronde rivers at Rondowa and ending downstream at the Wallowa-Whitman Forest boundary (Sections 1, T.4N., R.41E., and 6, T.4N., R.42E., W.M.). This portion of the river contains two classified sections, Recreation and Wild. The Recreation section is approximately 1.5 miles in length from Rondowa to the Umatilla National Forest boundary (sections 11/14, T.3N., R.40E., W.M.) and is all private land. The Wild section is approximately 17.4 miles and in primarily public lands including both Umatilla and Wallowa-Whitman National Forest.

The EA for the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers management plan is available for public review at the Umatilla National Forest Supervisor's Office in Pendleton, Oregon, and the Wallowa-Whitman Supervisor's Office in Baker City, Oregon. The document is also available for review at the BLM's Vale District Office in Vale, Oregon, and Baker Resource Area Office in Baker City, Oregon.

DECISION

As Forest Supervisors of the Umatilla and Wallowa-Whitman National Forests, our decision is to amend each Forest Plan by implementing Alternative B of the EA for the National Forests' administered part of the Grande Ronde Wild and Scenic River. The decision is applicable to the Recreation and Wild segments described in the above introduction. Our decision is also to recommend the new boundary, including the boundary location on National Forest lands, to the Regional Forester.

The alternative provides a management plan that delineates river corridor boundaries, identifies appropriate management practices, and provides for monitoring. The alternative meets the intent of maintaining free flowing conditions and water quality, protecting and/or enhancing the identified outstandingly remarkable values (ORVs), meeting standards for the Wild river classification and addressing the major public issues.

The overall goal of Alternative B is to protect and/or enhance the identified ORVs and other special quantities of the Grande Ronde River while recognizing landowner interests and rights consistent with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Acts.

In summary, key management elements of the decision are:

Scenery

- Preserve the existing landscape (visual quality) within the Wild Section.

Social/Economic

- Improve river staging areas and access points to better facilitate use and accommodate all river users
- Maintain the "traditional" boating experience.
- Maintain existing campsites in an undeveloped or primitive condition.
- Require mandatory pack-out of human waste, garbage, and provide the necessary facilities. Require the use of firepans.
- In the Wild Section, close the river and corridor to motorized water craft or vehicle use. Motorized equipment may be used for administrative purposes.
- In the Recreation Section, motorized use is allowed to continue, subject to results of monitoring studies.
- Special use authorizations are required for commercial use, with some constraints. Outfitter guide permits will remain open to applicants who meet given criteria.
- Trails and trail use will be encouraged outside the corridor, with access to the river discouraged.
- Continue existing use of private lands within the corridor as directed by Wallowa County zoning and Oregon State Scenic Waterway Administrative Rules.
- Reduce impacts/conflicts of recreation use on private land in the corridor.
- Assist Wallowa County and communities in broadening their economic bases and maintain the resource base for recreation-based industries.

Biological

- Restore, maintain or enhance (as appropriate) fish and wildlife habitat and populations, using a variety of techniques appropriate for the Wild and Scenic River classifications in coordination with State and Federal agencies and Indian tribes.

Water

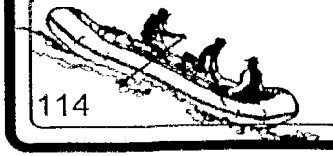
- Resource management actions will meet State water quality standards.
- Manage activities and correct pollution sources (where feasible), to protect water quality and quantity.
- Water rights predating designation of the Grande Ronde Wild and Scenic River (October 28, 1988) will be unaffected. Cooperation with senior water rights holders will be pursued to protect ORVs.

Cultural

- Inventory, evaluate, and protect cultural resources, including traditional use areas.
- Protect identified archeological and historic sites through a variety of techniques.

Land Use

- Authorized livestock grazing within the corridor will continue on public lands and managed to meet riparian plant community standards and protect ORVs. Allotment boundary locations will be reviewed as part of the Allotment Management planning process, as scheduled.



- Reintroduce fire as an effective vegetation management tool.
- Continue present fire suppression agreements among agencies.
- Wild classification segment is withdrawn from mineral entry, oil and gas leasing is excluded, and power and water development is prohibited.
- Timber harvest is not scheduled; no new roads will be constructed on public lands.

Administrative

- Develop and implement cooperative agreements among involved agencies and groups, as needed. Agreements may cover recreation standards and monitoring, emergency situations, law enforcement, facilities maintenance, and threatened, endangered, and sensitive species habitat management.
- Develop and use working groups to assist implementation of the Plan.
- Acquisition of private lands will only be from willing sellers. Condemnation for scenic easements will only be used as a last resort.

Monitoring

Develop and use monitoring of the variety of ORV's and other special values, as outlined in the Plan.

SCOPING AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

The public has been extensively involved throughout the process since the river planning process began in 1988. A series of 16 meetings throughout northeast Oregon and southeast Washington were held to identify issues and concerns. About 600 people attended the scoping meetings. Approximately 2,500 interest cards were also mailed to individuals, groups, and agencies along with numerous letters and telephone calls seeking input on the Plan.

In 1989, the BLM established two citizens Ad Hoc work groups; one in Oregon and one in Washington to provide planning direction for the development of the management plan. The team consisted of representatives from state agencies, county governments, Indian Nations, local communities, commercial outfitters, recreation groups, and private landowners. The two groups helped to develop plan objectives and formulate issues and management objectives. The teams met 34 times at different locations and provided the agencies with invaluable assistance in developing the Management Plan.

On April 15, 1992, the BLM sent approximately 1,500 letters of availability for a copy of the draft plan and environmental assessment to the individuals, groups, and agencies who responded to the initial interest mailing. Numerous individuals, groups, and agencies covering a cross section of interested publics provided comment on the draft documents.

ISSUES

Results of the public involvement form the basis for identification and development of the key issues. For the Grande Ronde River, Wild Segment, six key issues were formulated and carried forward through the process including: land (use), social, cultural/scenery, water, biological and administration.

As characterized in the EA, two broad themes emerged from the public comment and underlie the identification of the issues. One body of interested citizens tended to emphasize protection and enhancement of the free flowing character and ORV's, as described under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Acts. These groups and individuals expressed concerns about providing for water related recreation experiences, allowing access to these opportunities, enhancing the fisheries resources, protecting the scenic, and wildlife resource and providing for diversity. Many of these people support activities that enhance supplies of cool, clean water, river corridor easements for improved public access, recreation opportunities, cultural resource protection, vegetative practices that maintain or support wildlife, scenery, and riparian habitats. They see a need for management of the river corridor and surrounding lands in the Wild and Scenic River section to minimize development and commodity activities while allowing for more natural processes.

Another body of concerned groups and individuals focused on the potential impacts that river management may have on opportunities to use lands and resources. They expressed concerns that undue constraints or restrictions resulting from Wild and Scenic River management direction prohibit, reduce, or substantially change a variety of ongoing activities. These include timber harvest (timber supply reductions), livestock grazing, agricultural practices in surrounding or upstream areas, mineral extractions, water use and allocation, use of land for transportation and utility corridors and other activities. Many local landowners and others were concerned about landowner rights such as the ability to develop and manage private property, land acquisitions, water rights, direct impacts to private lands from recreationists and others, and additional access provisions. Many saw a direct or implied threat to their traditional life-styles and way of life, to the economic well being of individuals, and viability of communities, and to the economic and social values of the region. Most of these people support options that maintain or enhance traditional commodity uses; they want to minimize impacts to economic and social outputs and private land uses.

ALTERNATIVES

Four other alternatives developed for the Grande Ronde Wild and Scenic River Segment were considered before selecting Alternative B. Key management highlights of each alternative include:

Alternative A was aimed at managing the river corridor to maximize multiple uses within the parameters of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

- Protect ORV's.
- Increase Recreation (High Intensity Developments).
- Develop additional trail and road access.
- Manage to "Urban" end of spectrum for recreation.
- Emphasis on Tourism, Economics, Social Services.
- Increase multiple use developments to support commodity uses.
- Will not actively pursue land acquisition.

Alternative C emphasized recreation opportunities and experiences while protecting and enhancing ORVs.

- Enhance all ORV's within corridor regardless of land ownership.
- Promote types of recreation use according to river segment classification.
- Utilize Social Factors as the "limiting" factors for carrying capacity.
- Develop intense information and education programs.
- Actively pursue acquisition.

Alternative D gave special consideration to natural conditions and processes, particularly related to vegetation, wildlife, and fisheries while protecting and enhancing ORVs.

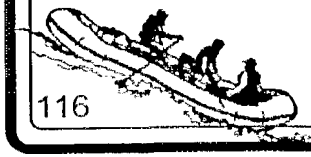
Cater to "Primitive" end of spectrum for Recreation.
- Biological factors determine carrying capacity.
- Limit access and developments.
- Maximize challenges and self reliance.
- Restrictions on public use of public and private land.
- Regulate commodity uses.
- Actively pursue acquisitions.

Alternative E provided for meeting minimum legislative intent.

- Protection and/or enhancement of ORV's.
- Meet legal requirement with minimum use of regulations.
- Allow level and degree of existing uses to continue.
- No acquisition of rights by condemnation.
- Will not actively pursue land acquisition.

RATIONALE FOR THE DECISION

In arriving at our decision, we considered several factors including the character and attributes of the river and its surroundings (ORV's), requirement of Wild and Recreation classifications, the issues identified by the public and the alternatives for addressing the issues.



The identified ORVs are key elements in defining future management direction on river sections for which the Forest Service has administrative responsibility. An important consideration is to maintain and improve the traditional float experience for beginning and moderate skill levels and associated recreation opportunities in a diverse and scenic environment. We prefer Alternative B because it most effectively (of the alternatives) meets the criteria by promoting existing recreation opportunities and experiences and by protecting the scenic and other values into the future. Fish habitat/water quality and wildlife habitat were also important considerations in our decision. Alternative B best supports our Forest management objectives; activities are designed for protecting and improving fish habitat, fish populations, water quality, and wildlife habitat. We also prefer the more "balanced" emphasis provided by Alternative B to management of ORVs because we believe that the public interests and needs are better served under such a plan. In our view, the other alternatives, in whole or in part, are not as effective as Alternative B in protecting and enhancing all of the ORVs and achieving a balance between the values.

The selected alternative meets the requirements for each classified river segment from the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, as documented in each of the Forest Plans. Alternative B is also consistent with and reinforces direction in the Forest Plan.

Most of the lands administered by the Forest Service are public and are relatively primitive and undeveloped. The river classification and direction under Alternative B maintains these conditions. However, we recognize that public concerns about Wild and Scenic River management, expressed in the issues, and how the issues are resolved can influence management and future conditions on Forest Service administered sections. From our perspective, Alternative B more favorably addresses the concerns expressed about maintaining opportunities to use private lands and natural resources while protecting and enhancing OR and other important values. We believe that more compatible management for the entire river results from Alternative B. We also believe that the working group process used by the BLM engenders better issue resolution and more support and acceptance for the Plan. With acceptable issue resolution, under Alternative B, we think that the Forest Service can more effectively manage our river responsibilities into the future.

The plan encourages and establishes coordination and cooperation requirements with agencies, Indian Nations, and others and provides direction for continued use of working groups on resources, monitoring, and additional planning issues. We prefer these cooperative approaches to resolving problems and developing agreed upon approaches to management of the river corridor and associated values.

SPECIFICALLY REQUIRED DISCLOSURES

There are no unavoidable, adverse effects associated with implementing Alternative B of the Grande Ronde Wild and Scenic River segment that are not already identified in the Final EIS for the Umatilla and Wallowa-Whitman Forest Plans.

Short-term uses are not proposed in the Management Plan. Promoting long-term health and productivity of the Forest's ecosystems is an objective of the river management plan.

No irreversible or irretrievable losses from implementing Alternative B have been identified that are not already described in the Final EIS for each of the Forest Plans.

There are no unusual energy requirements associated with implementing Alternative B.

There are no specific projects planned within wetlands or floodplains that can be implemented under this decision without further analysis and a separate Decision Notice issued addressing wetland or floodplains.

The management plan will cause no adverse effects on any Threatened or Endangered species or critical habitat; prime farmland, rangeland, or forest land; cultural resources; or civil rights, women, and minorities not already identified in the Final EIS for the Forest Plans.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Based on a review of site-specific environmental analysis documented in the Environmental Assessment, we have determined that the Management Plan and Forest Plan Amendments for the Forest Service administered portion of the Grande Ronde Wild and Scenic River are not major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement is not necessary. The direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental impacts discussed in the EA have been disclosed within the appropriate context and will have limited intensity. Our determination is based on the following factors from Title 40 CFR 1508.27:

1. The beneficial and adverse environmental effects described in the EA for Alternative B were considered independently and cumulatively to determine if the project would significantly effect the human environment. No significant impacts were identified.

2. Public response has indicated that the Plan is not likely to cause effects that are highly controversial. Refer to the EA for a description of the public scoping process.

3. The Management Plan causes no highly uncertain effects and no effects that involve unique or unknown risks.

4. There will be no significant cumulative effects from implementing the plan in conjunction with past, present, and foreseeable future actions.

5. The plan will not adversely affect any sites or features listed or eligible to be listed in the National Register of Historic Places, or any significant scientific, cultural, or historical resources.

6. The effects of the plan on threatened and endangered species as well as sensitive species were analyzed in biological evaluations (BE's). There will be no risk of adversely affecting these species with the plan as described in the EA. The plan will have no adverse effect on threatened, endangered, or sensitive species habitat. Over time, the plan is expected to have positive effects on threatened, endangered, and sensitive species.

7. The River Management Plan is consistent with all known Federal, State, and local laws. Regulations related to the National Forest Management Act and the Endangered Species Act have been incorporated in the project.

FINDINGS REQUIRED BY OTHER LAWS, TREATIES, AGREEMENTS

We have determined that this amendment is not significant under the National Forest Management Act of 1976. Adoption of this amendment will not significantly alter Forest Plan goals, objectives, standards, guidelines, or management direction. Indeed, this amendment will enable managers to better meet the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, and existing Forest Plan goals, objectives, and management direction.

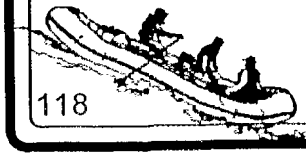
Implementation of this Wild and Scenic River Management Plan for the (lower) Grande Ronde River is consistent with the Forest Service trust responsibilities for protection of treaty rights of the Nez Perce tribe. Specifically, the emphasis of selected Alternative B will provide the best opportunity for protection and enhancement of fish habitat in and along the river. This decision further supports the Forest Service commitments to the tribes to improve fish populations as agreed to in the Columbia River Basin Anadromous Fish Habitat Management Policy and Implementation Guide, 1991.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

Implementation of this decision shall not occur within 30 days following publication of the legal notice of the decision in the Baker City Herald and East Oregonian.

APPEAL RIGHTS

This decision is subject to appeal pursuant to 36 CFR 217. Any Notice of Appeal of this decision must be fully consistent with 36 CFR 217.9 (content



of a Notice of Appeal) and must be filed with John Lowe, Regional Forester, P.O. Box 3623, Portland, Oregon 97208 within 45 days of the date stated in the legal notice of this decision, which appears in the Baker City Herald or the East Oregonian.

CONTACT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information regarding the Grande Ronde Wild and Scenic River Management Plan, contact Marty Gardner at the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest Supervisor's Office, P.O. Box 907, Baker City, Oregon 97814 or at (503) 523-6391; or Gerry Meyer, at the Baker Resources Area Office, P.O. Box 987, Baker City, Oregon at (503) 523-6391.

John P. Kline

JOHN P. KLINE
Deputy Forest Supervisor
Umatilla National Forest

December 13, 1993
Date

R M Richmond

R. M. RICHMOND
Forest Supervisor
Wallowa-Whitman National Forest

December 15, 1993
Date

Enrionmenal Assessment

Introduction

The Wallowa/Grande Ronde River corridor planning area contains approximately 16,640 acres of public land managed by the Bureau of Land Management, Forest Services, and the states of Oregon and Washington. Approximately 12,160 acres within the corridor is in private ownership located in Wallowa and Union Counties, Oregon and Asotin County, Washington.

The area encompasses 90 miles of river with surrounding drainages. Beginning at Minam, Oregon, on the Wallowa River, downstream for 10 miles to Rondowa, Oregon, was designated as a National Wild and Scenic Study River under the Omnibus Oregon Rivers Act of 1988. It was also designated as an Oregon State Scenic Waterway in 1988 through Ballot Measure #7. The Grande Ronde River From Rondowa, Oregon, downstream for 43.8 miles to the Oregon/Washington Stateline was designated as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System under the 1988 Act, as well as a component of the Oregon State Scenic Waterways System by Ballot Measure #7. The Grande Ronde River downstream from the Oregon/Washington Stateline for 36.2 miles, to Heller Bar, Washington, on the Snake River, was identified under the Washington State (Asotin County) Shoreline Program. Also, the entire river corridor is within the Wallowa/Grande Ronde River Area of Environmental Concern (ACEC), a Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA) and Special Scenic Area (SSA).

The planning area contains outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, fish, and wildlife values. The management actions recommended in this plan would protect these outstandingly remarkable values (ORV's) while allowing land uses in a manner which recognizes the importance and sensitivity of the area.

Affected Environment

A detailed description of the affected environment is provided in Chapter 2, Existing Situation. The environmental elements of prime and/or unique farmland, floodplain, hazardous waste, and Native American religious concerns are not affected by this planning effort and will not be analyzed further.

Proposed Action and Alternatives

There are three river segments and thirteen alternatives analyzed in this environmental assessment. There are four alternatives for the Wallowa River segment, five alternatives for the designated segment of the Grande Ronde River in Oregon, and four alternatives for the Washington segment of the Grande Ronde River.

The preferred alternatives for the Wallowa River segment, the Grande Ronde River Oregon segment, and the Grande Ronde River Washington segment have the common management thrust of the protection and/or enhancement of the corridors outstandingly remarkable values of scenery, recreation, fish and wildlife, with emphasis on the relationships between private and public land management. The remaining alternatives range from commodity oriented management, to amenity oriented management, to management at a custodial level within the parameters of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and other applicable federal and state acts.

All alternatives include the existing direction of the Baker RMP and Forest Plans concerning river management.

As required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Tables 15, 16, and 17 present the alternatives in comparative form. The preferred alternatives are accompanied by a program monitoring process toward resource goals (refer to Chapter 3).

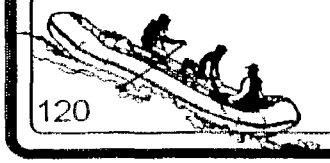


TABLE 15: WALLOWA RIVER (STUDY RIVER SEGMENT) - SUMMARY OF ALTERNATIVE

Alternative A. (Preferred Alternative) Protect and Enhance those values on the Wallowa River that are being considered under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, fully recognizing private landowner interests and rights consistent with the Act.	**Alternative B.** Protect and Enhance Study River Values with emphasis on Recreation.	**Alaternative C.** Protect and Enhance Study River Values with emphasis on Naturalness (Wildlife/Fisheries/Vegetation).	**Alternative D.** No Action plus meeting minimum legislative intent.
· Will not actively pursue acquisitions except from willing parties. · Enhance Study River values on Public Land and Waters · County/State regulations on private land. · Reduce impact/conflicts of recreation use on private land in River corridor.	· Actively pursue acquisition. · Enhance all Study River Values within corridor regardless of land ownership. · Develop intense information and education programs. · Utilize Social Factors as the "limiting" factors for carrying capacity. · Promote types of recreation use according to river segment classification.	· Manage to "Primitive" end of spectrum for Recreation. · Biological factors determine carrying capacity. · Actively pursue acquisitions · Regulate commodity uses. · Limit access and developments. · Maximize challenges and self reliance. · Restrictions on public use of public and private land.	· No planned enhancement of Study River Values. · Allow level and degree of existing uses to continue. · Meet legal requirements with minimum use of regulations. · No acquisition of rights by condemnation. · Will not actively pursue land acquisition.

TABLE 16: GRANDE RONDE RIVER (WASHINGTON RIVER SEGMENT) - SUMMARY OF ALTERNATIVES

Alternative A. Promote maximum resource utilization within the parameters of local, state, & federal law, regulations, and/or policy within the river corridor.	**Alternative B. (Preferred Alternative).** Protect and/or enhance natural values while recognizing private landowner interests and rights.	**Alternative C.** Protect and enhance natural values. Emphasize recreation opportunities compatible with resource protection.	**Alternative D.** No Action beyond present management direction from various agencies.
· Protect River Values. · Utilize Physical Factors as limiting factors for carrying capacity. · Emphasize Highly Developed Recreation. · Emphasize Multiple Resource Facilities & Service Developments. · Emphasize Economic Potential of the Resource. · Develop additional Road & Trail access. · Will not actively pursue land acquisition.	· Public agencies will not actively pursue acquisitions/easements. · Enhance River Values on Public Land & Waters. · Pursue assistance for resource improvements on private land at owner request. · County/State regulations apply on private land. · Meet legal requirements on private land with minimum use of regulations. · Promote recreational activities and develop facilities which are compatible with the present physical and social character of the corridor. · Reduce impact/conflicts of recreation use on private land in corridor. · Develop and implement public information and education materials and programs for interpretation and proper use of the Corridor.	· Actively pursue land acquisition. · Enhance River Values within corridor regardless of land ownership. · Develop intensive info-education programs. · Utilize Social Factors as "limiting" factors for carrying capacity. · Encourage low-impact recreation uses/ activities. · Regulate commodity uses. · Limit access and developments.	· No planned enhancement of River Values. · Meet legal requirement with minimum use of regulations. · Level and degree of existing uses neither discouraged or encouraged. · Low priority for acquisition of easements or lands.

Table 17 - Grande Ronde River (Designated River Segment) - Summary of Alternatives

Alternative A. Maximize Multiple Use within the parameters of the Wild & Scenic Rivers Act.

- Protect ORV's.
- Increase Recreation (High Intensity Developments)
- Increase multiple use developments to support commodity uses.
- Manage to "Urban" end of spectrum for recreation.
- Emphasis on Tourism, Economics, Social Serv.
- Develop additional trail and road access.
- Will not actively pursue land acquisition.

Alternative B. (Preferred Alternative) Protect and Enhance ORV's on the Grande Ronde River while recognizing private landowner interests and rights consistent with the Act.

- County and State regulations on private land.
- Meet legal requirements (protection and/or enhancement) on private land with minimum use of federal regulations.
- Reduce impacts/conflicts of recreation use of private land in Wild and Scenic Rivers corridor.
- Land owner assistance for ORV enhancement.
- Will not actively pursue acquisition except from willing parties.
- Emphasize multiple use of river corridor resource.
- No restriction on search and rescue techniques within corridor.
- Implement State Scenic Waterway Administrative Rules for river corridor.
- Develop intense I&E Program for all river users.
- Provide specific management direction for anadromous and resident fish programs.
- Restrict motorized water craft from river from Umatilla Forest Boundary to Oregon/ Washington stateline.
- Establish citizens team to assist agencies in river management issues.
- Resolve conflicts on private land by starting at the local jurisdictional level.

Alternative C. Protect and Enhance ORV's with emphasis on recreation.

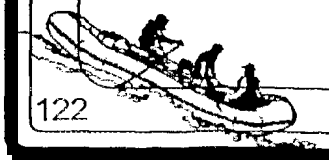
- Actively pursue acquisition.
- Enhance all ORV's within corridor regardless of land ownership.
- Develop intense information and education programs.
- Utilize Social Factors as the "limiting" factors for carrying capacity.
- Promote types of recreation use according to river segment classification.

Alternative D. Protect and Enhance ORVs with emphasis on Naturalness (Wildlife/Fisheries/ Vegetation)

- Cater to "Primitive" end of spectrum for Recreation.
- Biological factors determine carrying capacity.
- Actively pursue acquisitions
- Regulate commodity uses.
- Limit access and developments.
- Maximize challenges and self reliance.
- Restrictions on public use of public and private land.

Alternative E. No Action plus meeting minimum legislative intention.

- Protection and/or enhancement of ORVs.
- Allow level and degree of existing uses to continue.
- Meet legal requirement with minimum use of regulations.
- No acquisition of fee title by condemnation.



Range of Alternatives for the Wallowa River Segment

Alternative A (Preferred Alternative):

To protect and enhance those values on the Wallowa River that are being considered under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and fully recognizing private landowner interests and rights consistent with Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

Scenery

- Retain the existing character of the landscape with only a low level o change. Activities may be seen but should not attract attentionf Management public lands as a visual resource management class II.

Recreation

- Construct a visitor contact station and administrative facilities at Minam to provide for a focal point for management and serve as the principal access point for the 90 mile corridor.

- Improve river staging areas at Minam to increase convenience for river users.

  Open to both motorized and non-motorized watercraft with certain restrictions as determined by monitoring studies on timing, size, and number of trips, for motorized craft. Motorized and mechanized equipment is allowed for administrative and emergency use.

  Develop and utilize a work group to assist in the implementation of the plan and the formulation of recreation monitoring indicators and standards utilizing the limits of acceptable change process.

  Voluntary river registration until monitoring studies determines that indicator standards are not being met, then a sequence of staged management actions as identified on the monitoring table will be implemented.

- A special use authorization will be required for all commercial recreation services. A single outfitter-guide permit will be issued which authorizes use on all administrative jurisdictions.

- Outfitter-guide permits will remain open to applicants who have basic technical and financial capability, providing they follow the prescribed administrative process. Permits will not be reissued to permit holders who receive an "unacceptable" performance rating by the land manager.

- Develop intensive visitor awareness of river resources and user interrelationships.

- Require mandatory use of fire pans and pack out of human waste.

- Trail construction, reconstruction and maintenance will be encouraged along the slopes above the river. Trails and trail use will be discouraged as access to the river. Recreation trails will not be constructed within 500 vertical feet of the river, unless the horizontal distance is a minimum of one mile.

- Signing should enable floaters to orient themselves on maps. Public land and facilities should be clearly marked. Geographic features identified as a convenience to users and to instill confidence in orienteering skills.

Fish and Wildlife

- Minimize new road development on public land within the river corridor.

- Minimize human impacts in wildlife winter ranges through public awareness programs.

  Maintain or create snags within 1/4 mile each side of the river to accommodate winter roosting needs of bald eagles.

- Maintain cooperative agreements between ODFW and BLM.

- Maintain and/or improve fisheries habitat through instream and riparian enhancement projects.

Cultural Resources

- Inventory and evaluate cultural resources on public land in the river corridor.
- Conduct periodic patrols for all cultural resources, and install cultural resource protection signs to discourage vandalism of cultural properties.
- Conduct bi-monthly patrols of sensitive cultural resources located in high recreation use areas.
- Develop public awareness program, including signs and brochures, for the protection and interpretation of cultural resources.
- Conduct annual monitoring of sensitive cultural resources located in high recreation use areas.
- Inventory, protect and enhance significant cultural resource and traditional use locations through administrative or physical protection measures, stabilization or documentation.
- Complete baseline documentation of sensitive cultural resource sites.
- Restrict or exclude camping or livestock grazing as necessary to protect cultural resource sites.

Biodiversity

- Management actions within the corridor will protect or enhance existing flora, fauna, and physical elements.

Water Resources

- Maintain the free flowing character of the Wallowa River.
- Continue utilization of river water for domestic and agricultural purposes, insofar as they do not conflict with the interim protection of river values.
- Cooperate in developing a water monitoring program to assist agencies and private land owners in meeting water quality and quantity requirements for fish and wildlife resources and domestic and recreation uses
- Restrict resource activities on public land within the corridor watershed that would have the potential to degrade water quality or quantity of the Wallowa River.

Landowner Rights

- Continue existing uses of private land within the corridor as directed by Union County and Wallowa County zoning and the Oregon State Scenic Waterway Administrative Rules (refer to Chapter 4).
- Private party initiated easement/acquisition proposals will be processed on a priority basis.

Transportation

- Allow for the continued maintenance of transportation systems, insofar as they do not conflict with interim protection of river values.
- New transportation requirements on private land will meet Oregon State Scenic Waterway guidelines within the corridor. New roads for the purpose of timber harvest will be closed as necessary to protect wildlife, soils, or watershed values.
- Screen new roads from view of the river, as much as possible, utilizing vegetation and topography.

Forestry

- Optimize wood fiber outputs on all available moderate or highly capable private land within State Scenic Waterway guidelines.

- Utilize harvest prescriptions which have low visual impact, yet favor fire tolerant species, by emulation the mosaic character of the natural landscape.

- Keep large old trees in the stands.

- Reduce current stand densities as needed to maintain stand vigor, insofar as this does not conflict with interim protection of river values.

Livestock

- On public land, manage livestock grazing through season of use, and utilization levels to achieve the monitoring standard identified on Table 14.

- Encourage cooperative projects on all riparian rehabilitation projects regardless of land ownership. Restrict livestock for three to five growing seasons, following vegetative enhancement treatments.

Social and Economic Considerations

- Develop management actions that maintain existing rural life-styles of corridor residents.

- Maintain prescribed levels of resource utilizations in the agricultural and forest industries.

- Maintain physical resources necessary for the continuation of recreation based industries.

- Assist Union and Wallowa Counties in broadening the economic bases of various communities through resource cost share and grant programs.

Alternative B:

Protect and enhance those values on the Wallowa River that are being considered under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act with emphasis on recreation opportunities.

Scenery

- Stipulate development projects, including resource commodity uses, to insure that management activities provide for the protection of the characteristic landscape and do not dominate the immediate viewshed.

- During all construction projects, incorporate visual design criteria that are compatible with the corridor's characteristic landscape.

Recreation

- Construct a facility at Minam to serve as a visitor contact station, river interpretive center, and agency administrative headquarters to provide for a focal point for management and serve as the principal access point for the 90 mile corridor.

- Improve the river staging areas at Minam to accommodate additional vehicle parking, boat access, and rest-room facilities.

- Obtain access easements from private landowners in the Rondowa vicinity for vehicle access to the confluence of the Wallowa and Grande Ronde Rivers.

- Mandatory river registration for all recreational users of the Wallowa River.

- Develop monitoring studies to determine the social, physical, and environmental carrying capacities of the river corridor.

- Implement visitor use and party size limitations when monitoring indicates a trend toward unacceptable resource damage.

- Continue the commercial permit program for river outfitters that requires one permit for all administrative jurisdictions.
- Develop intensive visitor awareness program for river resources and user inter-relationships.
- Mandatory use of fire pans and pack out of human waste.
- Wallowa River open to both motorized and non-motorized water craft.

Fish and Wildlife

- New road development on public land within the river corridor will meet wildlife habitat requirements.
- Minimize human impacts in wildlife winter ranges through public awareness programs.
- Provide snags within 1/2 mile each side of the river to accommodate winter roosting needs of bald eagles.
- Maintain cooperative agreements with ODFW and initial wildlife agreements with private land owners.
- Maintain and/or improve fisheries habitat through instream and riparian enhancement projects.
- Manage reforestation plantations to minimize damage from livestock.
- Continue livestock grazing on public land within the canyon under authorized permits.
- Work with Section 15 permit holders on an individual basis. Initiate trespass actions on unauthorized use of corridor by livestock.
- Encourage cooperative projects that divert livestock from the riparian zone.
- Establish an information network where livestock owners are informed of stray animals.

Cultural Resources

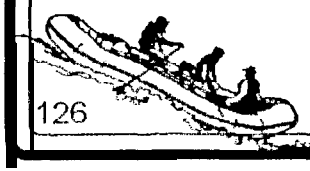
- Implement a systematic program for inventory and evaluation of cultural resources, including traditional use areas and cultural values, on public land in the river corridor.
- Conduct weekly patrols throughout the use season, and install protection signs to discourage vandalism of cultural properties.
- Develop an intensive public awareness, information and education program, including signs and brochures for the protection and interpretation of cultural resources.
- Develop agreements between federal agencies, tribes, and private landowners to protect significant cultural resource properties.
- Conduct annual monitoring of all cultural resources on public land.

Biodiversity

- Management actions within the corridor will maintain or enhance flora, fauna, and physical elements most similar to the present baseline condition.

Water Resources

- Maintain the free flowing character of the Wallowa River.
- Continue utilization of river for water domestic livestock on private land.



- Cooperate in developing a water monitoring program to assist agencies and private land owners in meeting water quality and quantity requirements for fish and wildlife resources and domestic and recreation uses.

- Stipulate resource activities on public land within the corridor watershed that would have the potential to degrade water quality or quantity of the Wallowa River.

Landowner Rights

Continue existing uses of private land within the corridor as directed by Union and Wallowa County zoning and the Oregon State Scenic Waterway Administrative Rules (refer to Chapter 4).

Actively pursue land acquisition programs with private landowners within the river corridor.

Transportation

Allow for the continued maintenance of transportation systems including state, county, and private roads, and railroad track and bed.

No new roads will be built on public land

Upgrade the road from Palmer Junction to Rondowa to gravel, all weather road standards.

Maintenance activities will meet visual and cultural resource requirements.

New transportation requirements on private land will meet Oregon State Scenic waterway guidelines within the corridor.

Forestry

Manage timber to optimize wildlife habitat, recreation and visual values on all available moderate or highly capable commercial forest lands.

- Emphasize diversity of habitat. Maximize forage cover ratios on selected areas to favor elk.

- Little additional road construction or improvement will be required. Roads will be closed as necessary to protect wildlife, soils or water quality.

Livestock

Eliminate domestic livestock grazing within the river corridor on public land.

Initiate trespass actions on unauthorized use of public land by livestock within the corridor.

Social and Economic Considerations

Management actions will adversely affect the existing rural life-styles of corridor residents through the elimination of domestic livestock grazing within the river corridor on public land.

Manage existing and prescribed levels of resource utilization in the agricultural and forest industries to enhance river recreation opportunities.

Maintain physical resources to insure the continuation and expansion of recreation based industries.

Assist Union and Wallowa Counties in broadening the economic base of various communities through recreation cost share and grant programs.

Develop public awareness programs for users of the Wallowa River corridor.

Alternative C:

Protect and enhance those values on the Wallowa River that are being considered under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act with emphasis on naturalness (Wildlife/Fisheries/Vegetation).

Scenery

- Stipulate development projects, including resource commodity uses, to insure that management activities are subordinate to the characteristic landscape and do not dominate the immediate viewshed.
- During recreation construction projects, incorporate visual design criteria that are compatible with the corridor's characteristic landscape.

Recreation

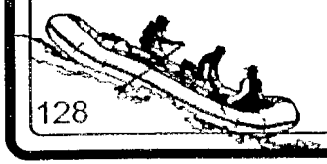
- Construct a facility at Minam to serve as a visitor contact station, river interpretive center, and agency administrative headquarters.
- Mandatory river registration for all users of the Wallowa River.
- Develop monitoring studies to determine the social, physical, and environmental carrying capacities of the river corridor.
- Implement visitor use and party size limitations when monitoring indicates a trend toward unacceptable resource damage.
- Continue the commercial permit program for river outfitters that requires one permit for all administrative jurisdictions.
- Develop intensive visitor awareness programs for river resources and user interrelationships.
- Mandatory use of fire pans and pack out of human waste.
- Wallowa River closed year long to motorized water craft.

Fish and Wildlife

- No new road development on public land within the river corridor.
- Minimize human impacts in wildlife ranges through public awareness programs, seasonal closures, and road closures.
- Provide snags within the river sub-basin to accommodate the habitat needs of bald eagles.
- Maintain cooperative agreements with ODFW and initiate wildlife agreements with private land owners.
- Maintain and/or improve fisheries habitat through instream and riparian enhancement projects.

Cultural Resources

- Implement a systematic program for inventory and evaluation of cultural resources, including traditional use areas and cultural values, on public land in the river corridor.
- Conduct weekly patrols throughout the use season, and install protection signs to discourage vandalism of cultural properties.
- Develop an intensive public awareness, information and education program, including signs and brochures for the protection and interpretation of cultural resources.
- Develop agreements between federal agencies, tribes, and private landowners to protect significant cultural resource properties.



- Conduct annual monitoring of all cultural resources on public land.

Biodiversity

- Management actions within the corridor will maintain or enhance flora, fauna, and physical elements most similar to the present baseline condition.

Water Resources

- Maintain the free flowing character of the Wallowa River.
- Continue utilization of river for water domestic livestock on private land.
- Cooperate in developing a water monitoring program to assist agencies and private land owners in meeting water quality and quantity requirements for fish and wildlife resources and domestic and recreation uses.
- Consider resource activities on public land within the corridor watershed that would have the potential to degrade or enhance water quality and/or quantity of the river.

Landowner Rights

- Continue existing uses of private land within the corridor as directed by Union and Wallowa County zoning and the Oregon State Scenic Waterway Administrative Rules (refer to Chapter 4).
- Actively pursue private land acquisitions (including condemnation actions) to preserve the naturalness of the corridor.

Transportation

- Continue maintenance of transportation systems including state, county, and private roads, and railroad track and bed.
- No new roads will be built on public land.
- Upgrade the road from Palmer Junction to Rondowa to gravel, all weather road standards.
- Maintenance activities will meet visual and cultural resource requirements.
- New transportation requirements on private land will meet Oregon State Scenic Waterway guidelines within the corridor.

Forestry

- Manage timber solely to optimize wildlife habitat, recreation and scenic values.
- Prescribe timber harvesting to meet wildlife, recreation and visual objectives.
- Little additional road construction or improvement will be needed.
- All commercial forest land is unregulated. No potential yield is calculated.

Livestock

- Eliminate domestic livestock grazing within the river corridor on public land.
- Initiate trespass actions on unauthorized use of public land by livestock within the corridor.

Social and Economic Considerations

- Management actions are to enhance naturalness and may adversely affect the existing rural life-styles of corridor residents.
- Manage existing and prescribed levels of resource utilization in the agricultural and forest industries to enhance natural values.
- Develop public awareness programs for users of the Wallowa River corridor to promote natural value preservation.

Alternative D:

No action plus meeting the minimum legislative intent of a Study River classification under the wild and Scenic Rivers Act and the Oregon State Scenic Waterway designation.

Scenery

- Stipulate development projects, including resource commodity uses, to ensure that activities are coordinated with visual requirements.

Recreation

- Maintain the existing river administrative facility (mobile home) at Minam to serve as a visitor contact station and river ranger quarters.
- Voluntary river registration for all recreation users of the Wallowa River.
- Continue the commercial permit program for river outfitters that requires one permit for all administrative jurisdictions.
- Voluntary use of fire pans and pack out of human waste.
- The Wallowa River will continue to be open to motorized and non-motorized water craft.

Fish and Wildlife

- Minimize road development on public land within the river corridor.
- Minimize impacts to wildlife habitats and populations through public awareness programs.
- Provide snags within 1/4 mile of the river to provide for bald eagle habitat needs.
- Maintain cooperative agreements with ODFW.

Cultural Resources

- Inventory and evaluate cultural resources in response to project specific surface-disturbing proposals on public land within the corridor.
- Conduct periodic patrols and install protection signs to discourage vandalism of cultural resources.
- Limited monitoring of cultural resources would occur.

Biodiversity

- Management actions within the corridor will maintain flora, fauna, and physical elements most similar to the present baseline condition.

Water Resources

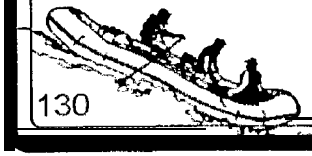
- Maintain the free flowing character of the Wallowa River.
- Continue utilization of river water for domestic livestock.

Landowner Rights

- Continue existing uses of private land within the corridor as directed by Union and Wallowa zoning and the Oregon State Scenic Waterway Administrative Rules (refer to Chapter 4).
- Agencies will not actively pursue land acquisitions or easements.

Transportation

- Continue maintenance of transportation system, including state, county and private roads, and railroad track and bed.



Forestry

- Optimize wood fiber outputs on all available moderate or highly capable private land.
- Utilize harvest prescriptions which have low visual impact, yet favor fire tolerant species, by emulating the mosaic character of the natural landscape.
- Attempt to always keep some large old trees in the stands.
- Reduce current stand densities as needed to maintain stand vigor.
- Special cuts as justified to meet resource objectives other than commercial timber harvest.
- Road improvement and construction will be required including some presently unroaded areas.
- Screen new roads from view from the river utilizing vegetation and topography.

Livestock

- On public land, restrict livestock grazing through season of use, utilization levels, and livestock numbers.
- Continue livestock grazing on public land within the canyon under authorized permits.
- Establish an information network where owners are informed of stray livestock. Initiate trespass actions on unauthorized use of corridor by livestock.

Social and Economic Considerations

Management actions will not adversely affect the existing rural life-styles of the corridor residents.

- Manage existing and prescribed levels of resource utilization in the agricultural and forest industries to meet current demand within the parameters of the Acts.

Impacts of Alternatives

Scenery

Alternatives A, B and C are exactly alike and state that all developmental projects, uses, and management activities remain subordinate to the visual quality and characteristics of the present landscape. Alternative D differs in that it does not specifically state that recreational construction and management activities must conform to and be subordinate to the natural characteristics of the corridor.

Recreation

Alternative A (Preferred Alternative): Under this alternative, the impacts to the existing recreational use of the river would be largely enhanced. The improvements to the launching areas including better staging areas, improved visitor contact station/administration office at Minam would allow a more universal use and knowledge of the corridor. Improvements along this line would allow easy access to both non-motorized and motorized watercraft. The developments along the corridor including party size limitations, mandatory use of fire pans, and removal of human waste would improve the health and cleanliness of the corridor for both boaters as well as those who camp along the shore. Volunteer river registration and commercial use programs would remain as they presently exist with the addition of motorized watercraft.

Alternative B: This alternative is very similar to alternative A in most of the developments and improvements. This alternative, however, provides for the obtaining of vehicle access to the corridor from the private landowners. This when combined with a mandatory registration policy would greatly increase specific river section availability and the ability of emergency and rescue personnel to know the whereabouts and locate river users.

Alternative C: The impacts of alternative C would relate closely to alternative B except that no access permits would be obtained from the land owners and that no motorized craft be allowed on this section of river.

Alternative D: This option would have the greatest negative impact on river recreation by allowing conditions to remain as they currently exist. These conditions would allow for the indiscriminate use and accumulation of surface fire rings along with the build-up of unsanitary human waste disposal sites.

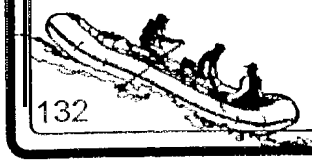
Fish And Wildlife

All four of the alternatives would have a positive effect on wildlife to a certain degree.

Alternative A (Preferred Alternative): The impacts of this alternative would be beneficial to the wildlife values by allowing for improvements to fish habitat and creating a snag zone (1/4 mile) along the corridor for bald eagle habitat. Human impacts would be reduced through public awareness along with minimizing new road development. Cooperative agreements between Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW), land managing agencies and initial wildlife agreements with the private landowners would also aid in reducing possible human impacts.

Alternative B: This alternative would be the most beneficial action for fish and wildlife resources. In alternative B there would be limited new road construction stipulated to protect wildlife habitat and it allows for the largest snag zone (½ mile).

Alternative C: This alternative differs from alternative B only in that human impacts would be reduced even further by seasonal closures and road closures and that the snag zone is expanded to the entire sub-basin of the corridor. Alternative C maintains the previous actions of the first two alternatives and varies only slightly with new road development being possible under this option. The impact from this alternative would be minimal but nevertheless noticeable.



Alternative D: This alternative would have the least positive influence on fish and wildlife. Although the differences between it and the other alternatives seems slight, this alternative does not allow for enhanced fish habitat improvement projects or cooperative wildlife agreements between land owners and managers.

Cultural Resources

Alternative A (Preferred Alternative): Systematic inventories and evaluation for cultural resources, educational efforts, annual monitoring and increased patrols will provide baseline data and increased surveillance for the increased protection of cultural resources from vandalism, recreation uses and unauthorized actions. Improved access for recreation use by vehicle and motorized craft would result in increased incidents of looting and vandalism to archaeological and burial sites. Monitoring of recreation uses, implementation of grazing management restrictions and standard project design stipulations would be beneficial to the protection of historical and archaeological sites.

Alternative B and C: Increased levels of patrol and monitoring for all cultural resource sites in the river corridor provides a greater degree of protection of cultural values. Cooperative agreements provide an opportunity for additional protection of cultural resources on all lands. The emphasis on naturalness, limitations on other resource uses and new road developments, elimination of livestock grazing in the river corridor would result in higher number and degree of in-place preservation of cultural resource sites and values.

Alternative D: Periodic patrols, limited monitoring, and project-initiated inventories will provide some protection to sensitive resources located in highest use zones, but will lead to gradual loss of cultural values and archaeological/historical site integrity to both natural forces and unauthorized human-caused action. Implementing livestock grazing management restrictions in the river corridor will provide opportunities for inventories and evaluations in support of grazing plans and will be beneficial to the protection of cultural resources from livestock trampling. Uncontrolled recreation uses will result in increased incidents of vandalism and gradual loss or damage to archaeological sites and traditional use localities.

Biodiversity

Alternative A (Preferred Alternative): This alternative would have the greatest beneficial impact on the river corridor due to the action of enhancing the flora, fauna and physical elements most similar to the present baseline condition. Both alternatives A and B allow for maintaining or enhancing the aforementioned elements while D offers strictly to maintain those elements. Only the preferred alternative (A) would make enhancement a necessity.

Water Resource

Alternative A (Preferred Alternative) and B: The impacts of these alternatives would be beneficial to the quality of water in the river corridor. By maintaining a free flowing river with continued livestock utilization combined with the development of water quality programs and activity stipulations will create a more controlled and maintained water resource.

Alternative C: This alternative lists the same actions as A and B except that it eliminates all activities that could possibly degrade the water quality of the river. This alternative would be the most beneficial to the water resources and quality.

Alternative D: This alternative would impact the river in a very negative way. By maintaining the current use conditions without formulating any control measures, the quality of the existing water resource can not possibly be regulated or maintained.

Landowner Rights

None of the four mentioned alternatives would effect the rights of the private landowner from what currently exists as directed by Union and Wallowa zoning and the Oregon State Scenic Waterway Administration rules.

Under alternatives A (preferred alternative) and D, land acquisition programs will not change from current management. However, under alternatives B and C, agencies will actively pursue acquisitions, resulting in larger acreages of the corridor in public ownership.

Transportation

Alternative A (Preferred Alternative): The impacts to the transportation along the river corridor under this alternative would be minimal. By continued maintenance of existing roads without eliminating the possibility of necessary new roads construction, existing travel means can be retained. At the same time, the criteria of maintenance activities meeting visual and cultural resource requirements will continue to enhance the visual aesthetics of the corridor.

Alternative B and C: Under these alternatives, the possible need for new road construction would be eliminated. Although the remaining actions to this alternative are the same as alternative A, the absence of new road construction could possibly hinder transportation if existing roads become unrepairable.

Alternative D: Alternative D would maintain current policies.

Forestry

Alternative A (Preferred Alternative): Under this alternative long term timber production would be reduced below the long term biological potential by less than 5%. These reductions would result from efforts to maintain visual quality and from extending the time to reduce stocking levels. Since long term timber production can be maintained while carrying 60% if current inventory, this reduction may not be apparent until the third decade.

Alternative B: The impacts resulting from this alternative would minimize the forest industry potential for production. By managing timber to optimize wildlife, recreation, and visual values, the existing timber harvest within the corridor will be seriously decreased. Production would be reduced below biological potential by 27% (35 Mbf/year) immediately. With little road construction or improvement and additional restrictions for habitat diversity, the viability of timber management within the corridor will be further threatened. The resulting damage to the livelihoods of harvesters will be serious.

Alternative C: The impacts of this alternative would be similar to alternative B, except that they would be more detrimental. By managing timber harvest solely to optimize wildlife, recreation, and scenic qualities, the presence of necessary harvest within the corridor will be minimal.

Alternative D: The impact of this alternative would be virtually indistinguishable from alternative A.

LIVESTOCK

Alternative A (Preferred Alternative): With this alternative, public land grazing would be moderately affected through season, number, and utilization level management. Under this management, range rehabilitation projects and reforestation protection would temporarily decrease necessary grazing to livestock owners. Some grazing could enhance tree populations and noxious weed abatement.

Alternative B and C: Both of these proposals are unacceptable due to the complete elimination of grazing ability on public lands. Livestock operations would be impacted by decreased grazing areas, community stability would be affected negatively, and private land would have to carry more AUM's or reduce numbers of livestock. Because of the public land ownership patterns and topography, fencing of all public land to eliminate grazing is not feasible.

Alternative D: This option is the most acceptable option of the four alternatives. Although the seasonal, number and utilization level restrictions will to some extent alter the past and current grazing systems, it will at least still maintain for grazing on public land with an authorized permit.

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS

Alternative A (Preferred Alternative): The impacts from this alternative would be minor while creating the most benefits to the corridor. This alternative would have the least impact on the existing life-styles of corridor residents while maintaining agricultural and forest industries. It would also improve the recreation industry by maintaining the physical resource and improving public awareness. This alternative also includes provisions to assist Union and Wallowa counties in broadening their economic base through economic cost share and grant programs.

Alternative B: This alternative is similar to alternative A except that rural life-styles, although not adversely effected, might show some minor changes from the life-styles that had existed previously.

Alternative C: This alternative would have the least desirable impacts to the socio-economic considerations of the corridor. Under this alternative of trying to manage for natural values, there is a strong possibility for adverse effects to occur to the corridors rural life-styles.

Alternative D: This alternative would not alter existing resource utilization within the forest and agriculture industries, or among the life-styles of the residents along the corridor.

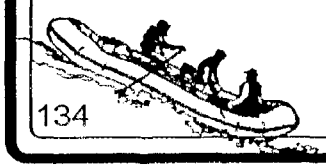
Runge of Alternatives for the Grande Ronde River, Wild and Scenic River Segment

ALTERNATIVE A:

Promote maximum resource utilization within the parameters of the Wild & Scenic Rivers Act.

SCENERY

- Inventory and evaluate the aesthetic values along the river corridor.
- Stipulate development projects, including resources commodity uses to insure that those projects and uses management activities are subordinate to the characteristic landscape and do not dominate the immediate viewshed.



- During construction projects, incorporate visual design criteria that are compatible with the corridor's characteristic landscape.

Social

- Improve river staging and camping areas to include handicap and family opportunity requirements, additional vehicle parking, boat access, and restroom facilities.

  Continue commercial permit programs for river outfitters that require one permit for all administrative jurisdictions.

- Continue existing uses of private land within the corridor as directed by Union and Wallowa county zoning and the Oregon State Scenic Waterway administrative rules.

- Management actions will not adversely affect the existing rural life-styles of corridor residents.

- Maintain physical resources to insure the continuation and expansion of resource based industries.

- Manage existing and prescribed levels of resource utilization in the agricultural and forest industries to maintain resource opportunities.

- Assist Union and Wallowa counties in broadening the economic base of various communities through cost share and grant programs.

- Open river corridor to both motorized and non-motorized watercraft.

- Voluntary river registration for all recreational users of the Grande Ronde corridor.

- Voluntary use of fire pans and pack out of human waste.

- Develop intensive visitor awareness programs for river resources and user interrelationships, along with river resource policies (ie...carry in/ carry out).

- Develop and implement awareness programs (ie...posters/signs/published articles) to accommodate residents and non-residents on types of river resource experiences in both seasonal periods and transportational methods.

- Develop intensive awareness programs between private landowners, users, and the general public on rights and responsibilities of all involved parties.

Biological

- Implement resource activities to maintain wildlife and fish populations.

- Minimize human impacts through the use of intensive public awareness programs.

- Maintain habitat requirements for species that fall under the Federal Threatened and Endangered Species Act.

- Develop cooperative agreements between Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and private landowners for protection and maintenance of riparian habitats.

- Management activities within the corridor will maintain flora, fauna and physical elements most similar to baseline conditions.

- Stipulate road development on public land within the river corridor.

Water

- Water quality monitoring on public lands will be conducted within the corridor as needed to determine causes, extent, and location of point and non-point source pollution.

- Resource management actions within the corridor will meet minimum water quality standards as set by Oregon Department of Environmental Quality.

- Stipulate resource activities on public land within the corridor watershed that would have the potential to degrade water quality or quantity of the Grande Ronde River to protect those values.

- Develop a water monitoring program to assist agencies and private landowners in water quality and quantity requirements for fish and wildlife, domestic water and recreation uses.

- Identify sources of pollution within the corridor and correct where economically and physically feasible.

- Existing water rights will not be affected by management actions in this plan.

- Livestock watering and irrigation uses of the river will continue.

CULTURAL

- Implement a systematic program of inventory and evaluation for cultural resources on public lands, including traditional use areas and cultural values.

- Conduct periodic patrols of all cultural resource sites, and install protection signs to discourage vandalism.

- Conduct bi-monthly patrols of highly sensitive and vulnerable archaeological sites.

- Complete baseline condition documentation of sensitive archaeological and historical sites.

- Develop an information and education program for the general public on protection of cultural resources in the river corridor.

- Develop agreements between state and federal agencies, tribes, and private landowners for the protection of cultural resources.

- Conduct annual monitoring of all cultural resources on public lands.

LAND

- Though year long cattle grazing is rarely feasible in the Wild section, year long grazing of the corridor will be allowed on public land through permit licensing by the appropriate agency.

- Rotation systems to disperse livestock and achieve desired utilization levels will be established through the development of grazing plans.

- Fencing, water developments and holding facilities will be developed at critical locations to assist livestock management.

- Reintroduce fire as an effective vegetative management tool through the use of prescribed burns.

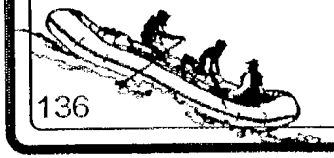
- Eliminate or reduce to acceptable levels of fuel build-up and hazards that are a result of past management and/or natural catastrophic events.

- Continue present fire suppression agreements between BLM, Forest Service and Oregon Department of Forestry.

- Develop control systems for weeds, insects, and disease to include herbicides, pesticides, fire, plowing, seeding, and biological controls.

- Agricultural practices on public land administered by Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife will utilize current ground manipulation, herbicide, and pesticide applications for producing desired forage.

- Mineral extraction is allowed within the recreation classification segments and closed to mineral extraction in the wild classification segment.



- Mineral extraction on public land will require a plan of operation, demonstrating protection of Wild and Scenic river values.

- Optimize wood fiber outputs on all available moderate or highly capable land.

- Utilize harvest prescriptions which have low visual impact, yet favor fire tolerant species, by emulation the mosaic character of the natural landscape.

- Attempt to always keep some large old trees in the stands.

- Reduce current stand densities as needed to maintain stand vigor.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Develop and implement monitoring methods to determine maximum visitor use of the corridor. Continue monitoring process to insure appropriate changes in visitor use possibilities.

Develop cooperative agreements between all involved agencies groups.

Develop management actions within the corridor and basin to insure the existing life-styles of corridor residents, while maximizing corridor conditions and public use.

Implement monitoring and management practices in relation to federal and state regulations.

- Assess cost estimate in regards to possible catastrophic events, legislation and economic efficiency.

- Develop contingency plans for proper action during emergency situations (catastrophic events).

Develop a list of possible members for an informal problem solving work group.

- Continue existing water rights of landowners, while maintaining minimum flow requirements according to Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW).

- Implement cooperative inter-agency agreements to develop law enforcement policies and patrol criteria and responsibilities of each agency.

- Implement developmental procedures for the recreational use from Minam, Oregon to Heller Bar, Washington in regards to maximum public use.

Develop intensive public awareness programs and signing plans to clearly identify boundary lines between public and private lands.

Develop studies to determine if acquisition of private lands is necessary to meet the minimum protection criteria of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Agencies will not actively pursue acquisition.

Develop maintenance and improvement programs to increase public use facilities and utilities.

Increase new road development on public lands to increase user opportunities.

Continue maintenance of transportation systems including state, county, and private roads.

Maintenance activities will meet visual and cultural resource requirements.

New transportation requirements on private land will meet Oregon State Scenic Waterway guidelines within the corridor.

ALTERNATIVE B (PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE):

Protect and enhance Outstanding Remarkable Values (ORV) on the Grande Ronde River while recognizing private landowner interest and rights consistent with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

Scenery

- Preserve the existing landscape within the wild section. Any change should be very low and must not attract attention. Manage as a visual resource management class I.

- Manage the existing landscape within the recreational section with only a low level of change. Activities may be seen but should not distract attention. Manage public land as a visual resource management class II.

Social

- Improve river staging areas to better accommodate all river users, especially the disabled.

- Develop and utilize a work group to assist in the implementation of the plan the formulation of recreation monitoring indicators and standards utilizing the limits of acceptable change process.

- Implement additional limitations when monitoring determines that the recreation use standard is not being met.

- A special use authorization will be required for all commercial recreation services. A single outfitter-guided permit will be issued which authorizes use on all administrative jurisdictions.

- Outfitter-guide permits will remain open to applicants who have basic technical and financial capability, providing they follow the prescribed administrative process. Permits will not be reissued to permit holders who received an "unacceptable" performance rating by the land manager.

- Close river corridor to motorized watercraft use from 1.5 miles below Rondowa (forest boundary) to the Oregon/Washington stateline with the exception of search and rescue efforts directed by the appropriate county sheriff and for private landowner access for land management activities in existence at the time of the Act.

- Develop a public awareness plan for all users on river resources, public and private use, management policies and user responsibilities.

- Maintain existing campsites within the corridor in an undeveloped condition.

- In the 1.5 mile recreation segment motorized watercraft use would be allowed to continue subject to the results of monitoring studies to determine its social and biological impacts.

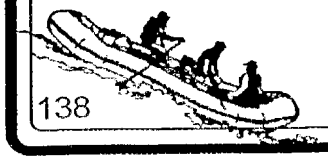
- Develop and implement interim limitations on motorized watercraft on the 1.5 mile recreation segment as determined through monitoring studies (limits on the number of launches, number of trips, number of commercial permits, seasonal use, size of watercraft, and horsepower and other appropriate limits may be considered). This monitoring will be done jointly between BLM, Forest Service, State Marine Board, and Oregon Registered Outfitter, and a private motorized watercraft operator.

- Develop regulations requiring mandatory firepans and packout of human waste and garbage and provide the necessary facilities.

- Trail construction, reconstruction and maintenance will be encouraged along the slopes above the river. Trails and trail use will be discouraged as access to the river. Recreation trails will not be constructed within 500 vertical feet of the river, unless the horizontal distance is a minimum of one mile.

- Continue existing uses of private land within the corridor as directed by Union and Wallowa county zoning and the Oregon State Scenic Waterway Administrative Rules.

- Develop management actions that maintain existing rural life-styles of corridor residents.



- Maintain levels of resource utilizations in the agricultural and forest industries on private land at the time of the passage of the Act as directed by the State Scenic Waterway program.

- Maintain physical resource base necessary for the continuation of recreation based industries.

- Assist Union and Wallowa counties in broadening the economic bases of various communities through resource cost share and grant programs.

- Signs should be located and designed to enhance the recreation experience. Boundaries of river segments and significant administrative units should be well marked.

- Recreation Section: Signing should enable floaters to orient themselves on maps. Public land and facilities should be clearly marked. Geographic features identified as a convenience to users and to instill confidence in orienteering skills.

- Wild Section: Signing should be at a level which requires high orienteering skills. Geographic features will not be signed. Only locations to facilities needed for resource protection will be marked.

Biological

- Monitor and assess fish and wildlife habitat populations within the corridor.

- Manage resource activities to restore wildlife and fish habitat and watershed stabilization by utilizing instream, riparian, and watershed improvement projects.

- Monitor sensitive, threatened, and/or endangered plant and wildlife species populations. Identify and improve habitat conditions (quality and quantity) that might be limiting.

- Improve habitat requirements for species that fall under the Federal Threatened and Endangered Species Act.

- Monitor and assess fish and wildlife ecological requirements to enhance existing populations of corridor species.

- Develop cooperative agreements between Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and private landowners for protection and enhancement of riparian habitats.

- Maintain or enhance fish and wildlife populations using current and updated management practices in cooperation with ODFW, Nez Perce, and related agencies.

- Develop monitoring activities of corridor fish and wildlife populations to ensure long term biodiversity and productivity.

- Management activities within the corridor will balance flora, fauna and physical element conditions in conformance with the vision statement.

- Monitor the impacts of recreation on wintering wildlife species and nesting activities of bald eagles within the corridor.

- Implement limitations on recreation use when monitoring determines that use exceeds the standard on wintering wildlife species and nesting activities of bald eagles within the corridor.

Water

- Water quality monitoring will be conducted within the corridor to determine cause, extent, and location of point and non-point source pollution.

- Resource management actions within the corridor will meet minimum water quality standards as set by Oregon Department of Environmental Quality.

- Cooperate in developing a water monitoring program to assist agencies and private land owners in meeting water quality and quantity requirements for fish and wildlife resources and domestic and recreation uses.

- Regulate resource activities on public land within the corridor that would have the potential to degrade water quality of quantity of the Grande Ronde River to protect and enhance those values.

- Identify sources of pollution within the corridor and correct where economically and physically feasible.

- Water rights which predate designation of the Grande Ronde Wild and Scenic River (October 28, 1988) will be unaffected. Water rights with priority dates after designation of the river will only be affected when streamflows are diminished and designated purposes can not otherwise be met. Cooperation with senior water right holders will be pursued to protect the designated Wild and Scenic River values.

- Agricultural uses of the river will continue, subject to Union and Wallowa County Zoning and Oregon State Scenic Waterway Administrative Rules. (Reference Chapter 4).

Cultural

- Implement a systematic program of inventory and evaluation for cultural resources on public lands, including traditional use areas.

- Conduct periodic patrols of all cultural resources sites, and install protection signs to discourage vandalism.

- Conduct bi-monthly patrols of highly sensitive and vulnerable archaeological sites.

- Complete baseline condition documentation of sensitive archaeological and historical sites.

- Develop a public awareness program for the general public on protection of cultural resources in the river corridor.

- Develop agreements between state and federal agencies, and tribes for protection of cultural resources.

- Conduct annual monitoring of cultural resources on public lands in high use areas.

- Inventory, protect and enhance significant cultural resource and traditional use locations through administrative or physical protection measures, stabilization or documentation.

- Complete baseline documentation of sensitive cultural resource sites.

- Restrict or exclude camping or livestock grazing as necessary to protect cultural resource sites.

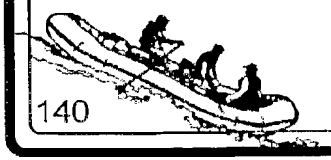
Land

- Authorized livestock grazing of the corridor will be allowed on public land through permit licensing by the appropriate agency and managed to achieve the monitoring standard for riparian plant communities.

- Seasons of use and rotation systems to disperse livestock and achieve desired utilization levels as shown on Table 14, will be established through the development of grazing plans with individual permit holders.

- Fencing, water developments and holding facilities will be developed at critical locations to protect and/or enhance ORV's and to assist livestock management subject to visual constraints and other restrictions in this plan.

- Reintroduce fire as an effective vegetative management tool through the use of prescribed burns.



- Eliminate or reduce to acceptable levels of fuel build-up and hazards that are a result of past management and/or natural catastrophic events, insofar as this does not conflict with the protection and enhancement of ORVs.

Continue present fire suppression agreements between BLM, Forest Service and Oregon Department of Forestry.

Develop control systems for weeds, insects, and disease to include herbicides, pesticides, fire, plowing, seeding, and biological controls for the protection of the corridors ORVs.

Agricultural practices on public land administered by Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife will utilize current ground manipulation applications for producing desired forage.

The wild classification segment is withdrawn from mineral entry and the recreation classification segments are currently open to locatable mineral exploration and development.

Location mineral exploration and development on public land will require a plan of operation demonstrating protection of Wild and Scenic river values.

Within the Wild segment, oil and gas leasing is excluded within one-quarter mile of the mean high water mark on either side of the river. Oil and gas leasing will be allowed outside of this corridor and in the other designated segments with a special, "no surface occupancy" stipulation.

This area is not a coal production area currently and no federal coa leasing will result from this plan.

Development of mineral material resources, aggregate and other common variety minerals, shall be prohibited on public land, unless needed on an "emergency basis," to protect the ORVs.

- The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act prohibits power and water development on existing withdrawn lands within the river boundaries. No new water power withdrawals would be allowed.

Revoke all withdrawals within the river corridor. Since these lands cannot be used from their withdrawn use (energy development) revocation of the withdrawals to BLM would provide a positive benefit to all agencies involved. FERC would not be encumbered with management of lands that no longer provide the intent of the original withdrawal. BLM would be able to more effectively manage the river corridor because of the more contiguous land patterns.

Minimum flow needs to protect ORVs and acquisition of state water rights would impact future hydro-potential.

- Agricultural practices on public land administered by Bureau of Land Management under 302 permits will utilize current ground manipulations, herbicide, and pesticide applications for producing desired forage.

Authorize existing unauthorized Agricultural, occupancy and other uses under a 302 permit as long as they are compatible with Wild and Scenic river values.

Salvage of dead and dying timber may be used as a means of protecting or enhancing ORV's.

- Utilize timber harvest as a tool to restore forest health and improve wildlife habitat whenever it is the most effective method and insofar as it does not conflict with protection and enhancement of ORVs.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Develop and utilize a work group to assist in the implementation of the plan and the formulation of recreation monitoring indicators and standards utilizing the limits of acceptable change process.

- Develop appropriate cooperative agreements, as necessary, between all involved agencies and groups for management of the river and implementation of this plan.

- Develop contingency plans for proper action during emergency situations (catastrophic events) including an economic analysis.

- Water rights which predate designation of the Grande Ronde Wild and Scenic River (October 28, 1988) will be unaffected. Management plans will be implemented to maintain instream flows, based on Oregon Departments of Water Resources and Fish and Wildlife recommendations.

- Implement cooperative inter-agency agreements to develop adequate law enforcement policies and patrol criteria and responsibilities of each agency.

- Develop an intensive public awareness plans for all users of river resources, public and private use, management policies and user responsibilities.

- Develop a signing plan to clearly identify boundary lines between public and private lands.

- Determine if acquisition of private lands is necessary to meet the protection and/or enhancement criteria of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Acquisition will only be from willing sellers. Condemnation for scenic easements will only be used as a last resort to protect and enhance ORVs.

- Develop maintenance and improvement programs on existing facilities and access points to better facilitate public use.

- Develop a water monitoring program to assist agencies and private landowners in water quality and quantity requirements for fish and wildlife enhancement and utilities.

- Continue maintenance of existing transportation systems including state, county, and private roads. Consistent with the policies and purposes of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

- Continue maintenance of existing utility systems.

- New utility systems will meet Oregon State Scenic Waterway guidelines within the corridor.

- Maintenance activities will meet visual and cultural resource requirements.

- New transportation requirements on private land will meet Oregon State Scenic Waterway guidelines within the corridor.

- Minimize new road development on public land within the river corridor to protect and enhance ORVs.

- Evaluate hydrologic, paleontologic, botanic, ecologic and cultural resources within the designated Wild and Scenic River Corridor assessing their potential as ORVs.

- Continue utilization of corridor water for agricultural purposes.

Alternative C:

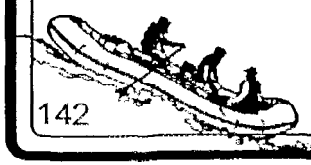
Protect and Enhance Outstanding Resource Values (ORV) with emphasis on recreation diversity.

Scenery

- Inventory and evaluate the aesthetic values along the river corridor.

- Stipulate development projects, including resource commodity uses to insure that management activities are subordinate to the characteristic landscape and do not dominate the immediate viewshed.

- During construction projects, incorporate visual design requirements that are compatible with the corridor's characteristic landscape.



Social

- Obtain access easements from private land owners in the Rondowa vicinity for vehicle access to the confluence of the Wallowa and Grande Ronde rivers.

  Maintain and enhance river staging and camping areas to include handicap and family opportunity requirements, additional vehicle parking, boat access and restroom facilities.

- Develop monitoring studies to determine the social carrying capacity of the river corridor.

- Implement party size limitations when monitoring studies determine that social use exceeds limits of acceptable change.

- Continue commercial permit programs for river outfitters that require one permit for all administrative jurisdictions.

- Continue existing uses of private land within the corridor as directed by Union and Wallowa county zoning and the Oregon State Scenic Waterway administrative rules.

  Open river corridor to both motorized and non-motorized watercraft

  Develop intensive visitor awareness programs for river resources and user interrelationships, along with river resource policies (ie...carry in/ carry out).

- Develop and implement awareness programs (ie...posters/signs/published articles) to accommodate residents and non-residents on types of river resource experiences in both seasonal periods and transportational methods.

- Develop intensive awareness programs between private landowners, users, and the general public in rights and responsibilities of all involved parties.

  Develop monitoring programs to assess effects to river corridor and surrounding area. Implement any policies needed to adjust for negative sociological implications.

  Management actions may adversely affect the existing rural life-styles of corridor residents.

  Maintain physical resources to insure the continuation and expansion of recreation based industries.

- Assist Union and Wallowa counties in broadening the economic base of various communities through recreation cost share and grant programs.

- Mandatory use of fire pans and pack out of human waste.

Biological

- Maintain and enhance resource activities to improve wildlife and fish populations by utilizing instream and riparian improvement projects.

- Maintain or improve habitat requirements for species that fall under the Federal Threatened and Endangered Species Act.

  Monitor and assess fish and wildlife ecological requirements to maintain or enhance existing populations of corridor species.

  Maintain cooperative agreements between Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and private landowners.

- Develop monitoring activities of corridor fish and wildlife populations to insure long term biodiversity and productivity.

- Management activities within the corridor will enhance flora, fauna and physical elements most similar to baseline conditions.

Water

- Water quality monitoring on public lands will be conducted within the corridor as needed to determine cause, extent, and location of point and non-point source pollution.

  Resource management actions within the corridor will meet desired water quality standards as set by Oregon Department of Environmental Quality.

- Identify sources of pollution within the corridor and correct where physically feasible.

  Develop monitoring programs to assist agencies and private landowners in water quality and quantity requirements for recreation uses.

- Stipulate resource activities on public land within the corridor watershed that would have the potential to degrade water quality or quantity of the Grande Ronde River to enhance water resources.

  Existing water rights will not be affected by management actions in this plan.

Cultural

- Implement a systematic program of inventory and evaluation for cultural resources on public lands, including traditional use areas and cultural values.

- Conduct periodic patrols of all cultural resources sites, and install protection signs to discourage vandalism.

- Conduct weekly patrols of highly sensitive and vulnerable archaeological sites.

- Complete baseline condition documentation of sensitive archaeological and historical sites.

- Develop an information and education program for the general public on protection of cultural resources and aesthetic properties in the river corridor.

- Develop agreements between state and federal agencies, and tribes for protection of cultural resources.

  Conduct annual monitoring of cultural resources on public lands in high use areas.

Land

Manage domestic livestock grazing within the river corridor on public land to low utilization levels.

Establish information network where livestock owners are informed of stray animals. Initiate trespass actions on unauthorized use of public land by livestock within the corridor. Fence public land in high use recreation areas.

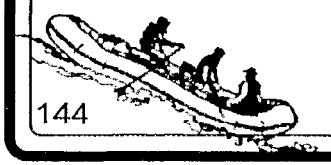
- Reintroduce fire as an effective vegetative management tool through the use of prescribed burns.

- Eliminate or reduce to acceptable levels of fuel build-up and hazards that are a result of past management and/or natural catastrophic events.

- Continue present fire suppression agreements between BLM, Forest Service and Oregon Department of Forestry.

- Develop control systems for weeds, insects and disease to include fire, plowing, seeding and biological controls.

- Agricultural practices on public land administered by Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife will utilize ground manipulation applications for producing desired forage.



- Mineral extraction is allowed within the recreation classification segments and closed to mineral extraction in the wild classification segment.

- Mineral extraction on public land will require a plan of operation, demonstrating protection of Wild and Scenic river values.

- Optimize wood fiber outputs on all available moderate or highly capable land.

- Utilize harvest prescriptions which have low visual impact, yet favor fire tolerant species, by emulation the mosaic character of the natural landscape.

- Attempt to always keep some large old trees in the stands.

- Reduce current stand densities as needed to maintain stand vigor.

- Limit forestry activities to those which are necessary to maintain forest health and/or are out of view of the river.

ADMINISTRATIVE

- Develop and implement monitoring methods to determine maximum visitor use of the corridor. Continue monitoring process to insure appropriate changes in visitor use possibilities.

- Develop cooperative agreements between all involved agencies and groups.

- Management actions within the corridor and basin will alter the existing life-styles of corridor residents, while maximizing corridor conditions and public use.

- Implement monitoring and management practices within the guidelines of federal and state regulations.

- Assess cost estimate in regards to possible catastrophic events, legislation and economic efficiency.

- Develop contingency plans for proper action during emergency situations (catastrophic events).

- Continue existing water rights of landowners, while maintaining minimum flow requirements according to Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD).

- Implement cooperative inter-agency agreements to develop adequate law enforcement policies and patrol criteria and responsibilities of each agency.

  Implement developmental procedures for the recreational use from Minam, Oregon to Heller Bar, Washington, in regards to maximum public use.

- Develop intensive public awareness programs and signing plans to clearly identify boundary lines between public and private lands.

- Develop studies to determine if acquisition of private lands is necessary to meet the enhancement criteria of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Agencies will actively pursue acquisition.

- Determine maximum private land acquisition needs to meet the minimum criteria of a Wild and Scenic designation.

- Develop maintenance and improvement programs to increase public use facilities and utilities.

- Implement new road development programs to maximize the recreational use possibilities.

ALTERNATIVE D:

Protect and Enhance Outstanding Resource Values (ORV) with emphasis on naturalness (Wildlife/Fisheries/Vegetation).

Scenery

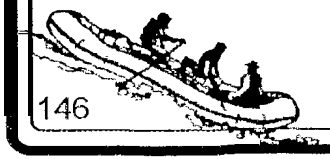
- Inventory and evaluate the aesthetic values along the river corridor.
- Stipulate development projects, including resource commodity uses, to insure that management activities are subordinate to the characteristic landscape and do not dominate the immediate viewshed.
- During recreation construction projects, incorporate visual design criteria that are compatible with the corridor's characteristic landscape.

Social

- Maintain river staging and camping areas along the corridor.
- Develop monitoring studies to determine the social carrying capacity of the river corridor.
- Implement party size limitations when monitoring studies determine that social use exceeds habitats ability for non-impact camping and recreational use.
- Continue commercial permit programs for river outfitters that require one permit for all administrative jurisdictions.
- Implement mandatory recreational permit registration, fire pans, and pack out of human waste for all river users.
- Close river corridor to motorized watercraft.
- Management actions are to enhance the naturalness of the corridor and will adversely affect the existing rural life-styles of the corridor residents.
- Implement management practices of resource utilization in the agricultural and forest industries to enhance natural values.
- Develop intensive visitor awareness programs for river corridor resources to promote natural value preservation.
- Develop monitoring programs to assess large and small effects to the river corridor and surrounding area. Implement any policies needed to adjust for negative sociological implications.

Biological

- Monitor and assess current management activities with regards to possible external sources of influence as well as within the river corridor.
- Maximize resource activities to enhance wildlife and fish populations by utilizing instream and riparian improvement projects.
- Maintain or enhance fish and wildlife populations using current and updated management practices as determined by ODFW, Nez Perce Tribe, and related agencies.
- Improve habitat requirements for species that fall under the Federal Threatened and Endangered Species Act.
- Monitor and assess fish and wildlife ecological requirements to enhance existing populations of corridor species.
- Develop cooperative agreements between Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and private landowners for protection and enhancement of riparian habitats.
- Maintain or enhance riparian habitats through utilization of current and updated management practices.
- Develop monitoring activities of corridor fish and wildlife populations to insure long term biodiversity and productivity.
- Management activities within the corridor will enhance flora, fauna and physical elements most similar to baseline conditions.



- Assess and develop short term management possibilities with regards to long term diversity and productivity.

WATER

- Water quality monitoring on public lands will be conducted within the corridor as need to determine cause, extent, and location of point and non-point source pollution.

- Resource management actions within the corridor will exceed minimum water quality standards as set by Oregon Department of Environmental Quality.

- Identify sources of pollution within the corridor and correct where economically and physically feasible.

  Develop a water monitoring program to assist agencies and private landowner in water quality and quantity requirements for riparian community enhancement.

  Eliminate resource activities on public land within the corridor watershed that would have the potential to degrade water quality or quantity of the river.

  Existing water rights will not be affected by management actions in this plan.

  Livestock watering and irrigation uses of the river will continue.

CULTURAL

  Implement a systematic program of inventory and evaluation for cultural resources on public lands, including traditional use areas and cultural values.

  Conduct weekly patrols of all cultural resources sites, and install protection signs.

- Complete baseline condition documentation of sensitive archaeological and historical sites.

- Develop an information and education program for the general public on protection of cultural resources and aesthetic properties in the river corridor.

- Develop agreements between state and federal agencies, tribes and private landowners for protection of cultural resources.

- Conduct annual monitoring of all cultural resources.

LAND

- Eliminate domestic livestock grazing within the river corridor on public land.

  Initiate trespass actions on unauthorized use of public land by livestock within the corridor. Fence public land from livestock grazing.

  Continue present fire suppression agreements between BLM, Forest Service and Oregon Department of Forestry.

  Agricultural practices on public land administered by Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife will utilize ground manipulation applications for producing desired forage.

- Mineral extraction on public land will not be allowed.

- Eliminated all harvest and thinning of timber in the corridor which is visible from the river.

ADMINISTRATIVE

- Develop and implement monitoring methods to determine visitor use of the corridor without causing habitat resource damage.

- Develop cooperative agreements between all involved agencies and groups.
- Management actions will adversely affect the existing life-styles of the corridor residents to maintain maximum naturalness of the corridor.
- Implement monitoring and management practices within guidelines of federal and state regulations.
- Implement studies to determine possible acquisition and easements to maximize corridor potential under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.
- Assess cost estimate in regards to possible catastrophic events, legislation and economic efficiency.
- Develop contingency plans for proper action during emergency situations (catastrophic events).
- Develop a list of possible members for an informal problem solving work group
- Develop a water monitoring program to assist agencies and private landowners in water quality and quantity requirements for riparian plant community enhancement.
- Implement cooperative inter-agency agreements to develop adequate law enforcement policies and patrol criteria and responsibilities for each agency.
- Develop studies to determine if acquisition of private lands is necessary to meet the enhancement criteria of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Agencies will actively pursue acquisition.
- Maintain current maintenance of transportation systems including state, county and private roads with the stipulation that maintenance activities will meet the visual and cultural resource requirements.
- No new roads will be built on public land.
- Maintenance activities will meet visual and cultural resource requirements.
- New transportation requirements on private land will meet Oregon State Scenic Waterway guidelines within the corridor.
- Continue utilization of river for water domestic livestock on private land.

Alternative E:

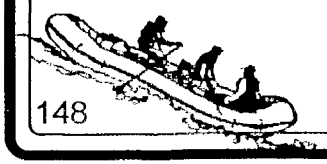
No Action beyond meeting minimum legislative intent.

Scenery

- Inventory and evaluate the aesthetic values along the river corridor.

Social

- Maintain management activities that will not adversely affect the existing rural life-styles of the corridor residents.
- Manage for existing and prescribed levels of resource utilization in the agricultural and forest industries to meet current demand within the parameters of the Act.
- Maintain the existing river administrative facility (mobile home) at Minam to serve as a visitor contact station and river ranger quarters.
- Voluntary river registration for all recreation users of the river corridor.
- Continue the commercial permit program for river outfitters that requires one permit for all administrative jurisdictions.



- Voluntary use of fire pans and pack out of human waste.

BIOLOGICAL

- Maintain cooperative agreements with ODFW.
- Minimize human impacts to wildlife habitats and populations through public awareness programs.
- Stipulate road development on public land with the river corridor to meet Wild and Scenic River objectives.
- Maintain habitats for all species that fall under the Federal Threatened and Endangered Species Act.

WATER

- Resource management actions will maintain the current water quality of the river corridor.
- Existing water rights will not be affected by management actions in this plan.
- Livestock watering and irrigation uses of the river will continue.

CULTURAL

- Inventory and evaluate cultural resources in response to project specific proposals or actions.
- Conduct periodic patrols of known sites and install protection signs to discourage vandalism; complete documentation of important archaeological sites.
- Employ standard project inventory and review procedures to protect cultural resources.

LAND

Spring and fall cattle grazing of the corridor will be allowed on public land through permit licensing by the appropriate agency.

Seasons of use and rotation systems to disperse livestock and achieve desired utilization levels will be established through the development of grazing plans.

Initiate trespass actions on unauthorized use of corridor by livestock.

Continue present fire suppression agreements between BLM, Forest Service and Oregon Department of Forestry.

Agricultural practices on public land administered by Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife will utilize current ground manipulation, herbicide, and pesticide applications for producing desired forage.

Mineral extraction is allowed within the recreation classification segments and closed to mineral extraction in the wild classification segment.

Mineral extraction on public land will require a plan of operation, demonstrating protection of Wild and Scenic river values.

Optimize wood fiber outputs on all available moderate or highly capable land.

Utilize harvest prescriptions which have low visual impact, yet favor fire tolerant species, by emulation the mosaic character of the natural landscape.

Attempt to always keep some large old trees in the stands.

Reduce current stand densities as needed to maintain stand vigor.

Salvage of dead and dying timber may be used as a means of maintaining or enhancing ORV's.

- Utilize timber harvest as a tool to restore forest health and improve wildlife habitat whenever it is the most effective method.

ADMINISTRATIVE

- Minimize road development on public land within the river corridor.
- Maintain cooperative agreements between ODFW.
- Develop management actions within the corridor and basin to insure the existing life-styles of corridor residents, while maintaining current corridor conditions.
- Implement management practices within the guidelines of federal and state regulations.
- Determine if acquisition needs of private land is necessary to meet the minimum criteria of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and includes only those lands that contain the characteristics that created the initial designation.
- Continue existing water rights of landowners while maintaining minimum flow requirements according to Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD).
- Continue maintenance of transportation systems, including state, county and private roads.

Impacts of Alternatives

SCENERY

Alternatives A through D are alike and state that all developmental projects, uses, and management activities remain subordinate to the visual quality and characteristics of the present landscape. Alternative E differs in that it does not specifically state that recreational construction and management activities must conform to and be subordinate to the natural characteristics of the corridor.

SOCIAL

Alternative A: Improving the river staging and camping areas to include handicap and family opportunity requirements, additional vehicle parking, boat access, and restroom facilities would create a more diverse recreational area. These improvements would increase visitor recreation by increasing the different opportunities and desires of users.

The development of intensive visitor awareness programs would also increase the recreational use of the corridor. Implementing awareness campaigns, user responsibilities, and voluntary registration, voluntary fire pans and the packing out of human waste would all enhance the visual quality and cleanliness of the corridor and therefore the quantity of recreational use.

Opening the river to both motorized and non-motorized watercraft would increase the availability for the different uses of the corridor causing and increase in the recreational use and resulting in user conflicts between motorized and traditional uses of the river corridor.

The continuation of use of private land within the corridor, as directed by Union and Wallowa counties zoning and the Oregon State Scenic Waterway administrative rules, in the form of agricultural and forest utilization will help to maintain the current life-styles of the corridor residents. Managing those activities with regards to maintaining the physical resources will also insure the increase of recreational based industries.

Alternative B (Preferred Alternative): The sociological impacts on private landowners under this alternative would result from the management of intensive awareness programs between landowners, users and the general public.

The development of visitor awareness programs to improve the interrelationships between users and landowners would be beneficial to both parties. By improving the knowledge of the public and landowners on rights, responsibilities of corridor use, and location of private land along the corridor, altercations and misunderstanding between those parties would be reduced.

The impacts to existing life-styles, forest/agricultural utilization would be the same as alternative A.

Alternative C: The impacts from this alternative would similar to alternative A. The only differences would occur in the actions dealing with obtaining access easements, adverse affects on rural life-styles, the mandatory use of fire pans and packing out of human waste, and the implementation of party size limitations.

Obtaining access easements from private landowners would help the recreational use of the corridor by increasing the availability of specific areas. Increasing the number of staging areas would increase the total number of possible water entries by the public and more evenly distribute them along the river. In accompaniment with the access easements would be road development. New and better road development would aid those users who are unequipped with off-road vehicles to access those areas.

One of the negative sides to this alternative would be the adverse affect that it would have on the life-styles of the corridor residents. By actively pursuing land acquisition, the current rural life-styles of the residents could not be maintained.

The mandatory use of fire pans and the packing out of human waste would not only increase the health and physical appearance of the corridor, but would also increase the ability of the corridor to maintain a higher level of use.

Determination of carrying capacities and possible party size limitations could affect the recreational use of the corridor. Limiting party size would affect the recreation experience of both motorized and non-motorized boaters, resulting in a net loss of recreation opportunities for those having boats capable of carrying more people. However, limiting party size for motorized and non-motorized users would control or prohibit the use of larger boats and tour groups. This would have a slightly beneficial impact on the overall recreation experience of other users

Alternative D: Banning motorized watercraft on a year-round basis would cause a significant decrease in adverse impacts to resulting from recreation experience of non-motorized users. By eliminating motorized use, the disturbance of animals (bald eagles) along the corridor would be greatly reduced.

Maintaining existing staging and camping areas would cause more trampling, bank erosion and vegetation loss, also resulting in further degradation of fish and wildlife habitat. No limit on boat numbers or group size would result in continued escalation in numbers of river users. This increased use would result in more disturbances to wildlife and further degradation of wildlife habitat. In addition, allowing camping at all existing sites would result in a continuation of significant, adverse impacts on riparian soil and vegetation, in turn resulting in degradation of fish and wildlife habitat.

The impacts resulting from the establishment of mandatory registration, fire pan use, and packing out of human waste/garbage will be the same as alternative C.

By maintaining all management, agricultural, and forest activities to enhance the natural values of the corridor will help improve those characteristics and qualities.

The development of visitor awareness programs to improve the interrelationships between users and landowners would increase the knowledge of natural value preservation to both parties. By improving this knowledge of the public and landowners on rights, responsibilities of corridor use, and importance of natural value preservation will greatly improve the understanding of management practices that occur within the boundaries of the corridor.

Alternative E: The impacts of this alternative would not alter the existing activities present in the corridor. It would also have the most detrimental affects to the corridor in regards to the indiscriminate human waste disposal, campsite and corridor degradation, and limiting the awareness of the public by not improving the visitor contact facility or informative methods.

Biological

Alternative A: Under this alternative, most of the attention on the habitat and populations of corridor species is directed at maintaining the current numbers and health. Although these actions are of a positive nature, they do not allow for the future improvement of the corridors habitat or wildlife health.

Although developing cooperative agreements between ODFW and private landowners, intensive awareness programs, and stipulating management activities to maintain flora, fauna, and physical elements, will undoubtedly help to protect populations and health that now exist, no improvement programs will occur. This will stagnate the current populations. With the increase in recreational use, these maintenance activities will not be able to continue to offset the impacts from the increased numbers and occurrence of that use

Though the goal of this alternative is to maintain the habitats of species that fall under the Threatened and Endangered Species Act, the effects of the increased use along the corridor would have the opposite effect. Adverse impacts to both plant and animal species would result from increased levels of recreation use, especially camping, motorized and non-motorized boating. Primary impacts would occur as a result of disturbance to the animals as well as habitat damage in both aquatic and riparian habitats.

Alternative B (Preferred Alternative): All of the actions that would be taken by the implementation of this alternative are aimed at creating a policy that is base on improving and maximizing habitat and wildlife species populations. However, through the implementation of cooperative agreements, management actions, and monitoring studies designed to improve or enhance, habitat, populations as determine by ODFW, as well as stipulating any activities that would damage or deface those aspects could possibly have a negative affect on the private landowners of the corridor. If it is determined that current agricultural and livestock management techniques on public land by permittees are damaging to the corridor health, it is possible that those practices would be altered.

Alternative C: All actions held within this alternative will be similar in effect to alternative A except that under this option, enhancement/improvement is the primary consideration. Although the effects from implementing these actions is limited in comparison to the preferred alternative, they still do allow for possible habitat and species population improvements.

Alternative D: All of the actions that would be taken by the implementation of this alternative are aimed at creating a policy that is base on improving and maximizing habitat and wildlife species populations. Through the implementation of cooperative agreements, management actions, and monitoring studies designed to improve or enhance, habitat, populations of both sensitive and non-sensitive species as determine by ODFW, as well as stipulating any activities that would damage or deface those aspects, the negative impacts of corridor use could be eliminated.

Alternative E: This alternative would not benefit the river corridor. Maintaining current conditions without properly addressing the potential for habitat improvements could lead to more disastrous effects in the event of catastrophic occurrences (ie. .fire, drought, hard winter).

The minimization of human impacts and road development will help benefit the corridor. But those benefits will be minor.

Water

Alternative A: Under this alternative, the quality of the water located in the corridor would be greatly improved. Through water quality monitoring programs designed to meet minimum standards of the DEQ, resource activity stipulations, awareness programs, and pollution suppression/control projects, the quality of the water resource of the corridor will be significantly enhanced.

Maintaining current livestock watering and irrigation practices could have a detrimental impact on the water quality. With cattle being allowed to use the corridor water supply, the damage done through trampling, soil compaction, and the resulting loss of riparian habitat and soil erosion will decrease the visual aesthetics of the corridors viewshed. Monitoring programs would aid to suppress the extent of grazing damage, nevertheless the damage will occur.

Alternative B (Preferred Alternative): The impacts to the corridor's water quality and pollution suppression/control would be the same as alternative A.

By maintaining the existing water rights, livestock watering, and irrigation practices within the corridor will insure that the corridor residents economic livelihood will continue.

Alternative C: The impacts on water quality under this alternative would be the same as alternative A, except for two actions. This alternative would make those standards as set by the ODEQ to be mandatorily exceeded, and any resource activities that would degrade water quality or quantity would be eliminated.

The impacts from maintaining livestock watering within the corridor would be the same as alternative A.

Alternative D: The impacts under this alternative will be the same as alternative A with the exception that and resource activities that have the potential to degrade said quality or quantity will be eliminated.

Alternative E: By implementing this alternative, the continued degradation of the water quality from grazing and irrigation will continue.

Cultural

Alternative A: Development associated with maximization of resource uses and increased visitor use and access in the river corridor would result in increased incidents of vandalism to cultural resources. Developing cooperative landowner and law enforcement agreements, signing public lands, information and education programs, systematic inventories and gathering of baseline documentation, patrols and regular monitoring of cultural resources would be beneficial to the protection of cultural resources.

Alternative B (Preferred Alternative): Limitations on motorized river access and minimizing new road developments, in conjunction with programs for cooperative law enforcement, education, patrol and signing would increase cultural resource protection.

Alternative C: Allowing motorized access and new road development on the river would lead to increased incidents of vandalism. Weekly patrols and regular monitoring would result in more protection for cultural resources than would periodic or bi-monthly patrols.

Alternative D: Limitations on motorized river access and exclusion of new road developments; coupled with resource use restrictions, law enforcement and landowner agreements, education and inventory/monitoring programs, and weekly patrols would provide the maximum protection for cultural resources among all alternatives.

Alternative E: Periodic patrols, limited project monitoring, and project-initiated inventories will provide some protection to sensitive resources located in highest use zones, but will lead to gradual loss of cultural values and archaeological/historical site integrity to both natural forces and unauthorized human-caused action.

Land

Alternative A: Land conditions under this alternative would benefit only slightly. Livestock operators would benefit by increased allotment numbers and community stability would be enhanced. Over grazing could damage the resource under this alternative. Through continued use, unprotected springs and seep areas would continue to be damaged by soil compaction and erosion.

The impacts from establishing control systems for weed, insects, and disease through the use of herbicides, pesticides, fire, plowing/seeding and biological controls in combination with agricultural practices administered by ODFW will benefit the corridor by improving desired vegetation, forage quality and increase the riparian health.

The reintroduction of fire as a vegetative management tool would have only temporary effects to the corridor viewshed. Although the visual aesthetics would be reduced for a short period of time, the reduction of fuel buildup along with new growth would significantly increase the corridor's riparian and forest health. In addition, by continuing current fire suppression agreements between BLM and appropriate agencies, catastrophic fire occurrences can be controlled or eliminated.

In order to meet the requirements of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, timber harvests under all alternatives would be reduced significantly below biological potential. However, since this alternative only seeks to maintain rather than enhance ORV's, this alternative requires less reduction than others. This alternative and alternative E may be considered as base cases (meeting minimum requirements of the Act) with regard to timber harvest

Mineral extraction along the corridor will have a minimal impact on the viewshed. By requiring a plan of operation for the protection of the corridors Wild and Scenic qualities, the current health of the corridor should continue.

Alternative B (Preferred Alternative): Development of rotational grazing plans, fencing, and water holding facilities at critical locations will assist livestock management. Implementing these management techniques will improve the quantity and quality of forage vegetation and the availability of water on land that is appropriately licensed.

The reintroduction of fire as an effective vegetative management tool, and to eliminate or reduce to acceptable levels of fuel build-up will also aid the private landowner. Through the use of prescribed burns, the quality and quantity of desired cattle forage vegetation will be significantly improved Cooperative fire suppression agreements between appropriate agencies will aid in the protection of the corridor and help maintain vegetative health and help limit the scope and severity of untimely natural burns.

Timber harvest on private land may be slightly reduced from base case under this alternative as landowners are encouraged to take measures to enhance ORV's. There is presently virtually no schedule harvest on the public land in contrast to alternatives A and E. Harvest on public land may be reduced, depending on fire occurrences and forest health conditions.

The impacts from the development of control systems for weeds, insects, and disease to include fire, plowing/seeding, biological controls, and agricultural practices of ODFW, will be the same as alternative A.

The impacts from mineral extraction within the corridor will be the same as alternative A.

Alternative C: Elimination of the mineral extraction action within the corridor would also improve the corridors visual appeal.

Agricultural practices administered by the Washington Department of Wildlife would aid in the reestablishment of native vegetation through the use of ground manipulation. This reestablishment of desired forage species would benefit both wildlife and riparian health.

Removal of all livestock from the public land within the corridor would result in decreased numbers of livestock, negatively affecting local income and community stability. Private land would be pressured by supporting more grazing units, or reducing livestock numbers, resulting in disruption of viable economic units. Eliminating intensive grazing would allow for the recovery of vegetation species which have been suppressed by intensive livestock use. The initiation of trespass actions on unauthorized use of the public land by livestock within the corridor would aid in insuring the protection of public land.

The impacts from mineral extraction within the corridor will be the same as alternative A.

The impacts from the establishment of control systems for weeds, insects, disease, and agricultural practices administered by ODFW will be the same as alternative B.

Timber harvest would drop to marginally sustainable levels under this alternative.

The impacts from fire reintroduction in the form of prescribed burns will be the same as alternative A.

Alternative D: The impacts resulting from the removal of livestock grazing within the corridor would be the same as alternative C.

The continuation of fire suppression agreements with appropriate agencies will not be enough to prevent the occurrence of catastrophic fires over time.

The agricultural practices administered by ODFW will create an increase in quality and quantity of desired forage species. This increase will improve the visual condition and health of the corridor riparian areas and aid wildlife populations as well.

Timber harvest under this alternative would be virtually nonexistent. This will result in disease and fire, both prescribed and wild, being the forces that shape forest composition. The risk of catastrophic fire will be significantly increased.

Eliminating mineral extraction within the corridor would remove the possibility of damage from mining and exploration on the viewshed.

Alternative E: The impacts from continued grazing will be the same as alternative A.

The initiation of trespass actions on unauthorized use of the public land by livestock within the corridor would aid in insuring the protection of public land.

The continuation of present fire suppression agreements between appropriate agencies will help protect the corridor as catastrophic events occur.

The impacts from agricultural practices will be the same as alternative D.

The continuation of mineral extraction within the recreational areas of the corridor will maintain the threat of land damage if large mineral deposits are discovered.

Administrative

Alternative A: Under this alternative, administrative actions for the management of the corridor would result in maintaining visual requirements, rural life-styles, agency cooperative agreements, and water rights. Current management strategies involving private land will continue unaffected.

Expanding public use facilities, including road improvement and/or construction, and recreation facilities from Minam, Oregon to Heller Bar, Washington will greatly increase recreation opportunities and use visitation along the corridor. These improvements will provide for increased user awareness of corridor resource opportunities.

Through the use of intensive visitor awareness programs, emergency contingency plans and informal problem solving work groups, the public involvement and awareness can be significantly increased. These awareness programs will be aimed at informing the public on corridor opportunities, responsibilities, and restrictions. The development of informal problem solving work groups and emergency contingency plans will insure the health of the corridor and corridor users in the case of catastrophic events.

Implementation of cooperative agreements between agencies to develop adequate law enforcement policies and patrol criteria in relation to federal and state regulations will insure that the regulations involved with river use are being observed.

By developing studies to determine land acquisition and easement needs to meet the minimum legislative intent of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, private land acquisition will be held to a minimum, while protecting those values for which Congress designated the river.

Maintaining existing water rights according to OWRD, and transportational maintenance of county, state, and private roads will insure the recreational use aimed for in this proposal continues with little or no affect on the life-styles of corridor residents.

By stipulating maintenance activities to meet visual and cultural resource requirement will make sure that all characteristics that appeal to the recreational user are present.

Alternative B (Preferred Alternative): By developing and implementing studies to determine land acquisition and easement needs to meet the minimum legislative intent of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, private land acquisition will be held to a minimum, while protecting and enhancing those values for which Congress designated the river.

Continuation of current transportation systems including county, state and private roads, and stipulating new transportation requirements on private land to meet Oregon State Scenic Waterway guidelines will also maintain the current use and availability of the corridor to the residents.

Alternative C: The impacts from this alternative would be the same as alternative A except in regards to corridor resident life-styles, and land acquisition.

Under this alternative, the active pursuit of land acquisition and elimination of existing water rights and livestock watering will improve the recreational potential of the corridor. By insuring that all Wild and Scenic characteristics within the corridor are included in land acquisition, the visual aesthetics and primitive appeal to the public will be present.

Alternative D: By developing and implementing studies to determine land acquisition and easement needs to meet the maximum legislative intent of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, private land acquisition will actively sought to protect those values for which Congress designated the river.

The implementation of contingency plans and problem solving work groups for the protection of natural values will insure the survival of these values in the case of catastrophic occurrences.

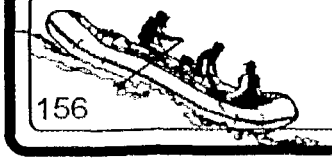
Eliminating new road development, stipulating maintenance activities, and maintaining current transportation systems to meet visual and cultural requirements will help to preserve the corridor's natural values.

Maintaining current livestock watering will have a detrimental impact on the natural values of the corridor. With cattle being allowed to use the corridor water supply, the damage done through trampling, soil compaction, and the resulting loss of riparian habitat and soil erosion will decrease the visual aesthetics of the corridors viewshed. Monitoring programs might suppress the extent of livestock watering damage, nevertheless the damage will occur.

The implementation of cooperative agreements to develop adequate law enforcement policies and patrol criteria will help insure the natural value are protected and requirements relating to those values are enforced.

Alternative E: By developing studies to determine land acquisition and easement needs to meet the minimum legislative intent of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, private land acquisition will be held to a minimum, while protecting those values for which Congress designated the river.

This alternative would maintain current conditions and policies that presently exist within the corridor in the forms of resident life-styles, cooperative agreements and road maintenance.



Range of Alternatives for the Grande Ronde River, Washington Segment

Alternative A:

Promote maximum resource utilization within the parameters of local, state, and federal law, regulations and/or policy within the river corridor.

Environmental

Maintenance activities will meet visual an cultural resource requirements.

New transportation requirements on private land will meet Asotin county Shoreline standards within the corridor.

Voluntary use of fire pans and pack out of human waste.

Management activities within the corridor will maintain flora, fauna and physical elements most similar to baseline conditions.

Maintain habitat requirements for species that fall under the Federal Threatened and Endangered Species Act.

Implement resource activities to maintain wildlife and fish populations.

Develop control systems for weeds, insects and disease to include herbicides, pesticides, fire, plowing seeding and biological controls.

Agricultural practices on public land administered by Washington Department of Wildlife will utilize current ground manipulation, herbicide, and pesticide applications for producing desired forage.

Water quality monitoring on public lands will be conducted within the corridor as needed to determine cause, extent, and location of point and non-point source pollution.

- Resource management actions within the corridor will meet minimum water quality standards as set by Washington Department of Ecology.
- Develop a water monitoring program to assist agencies and private land owners in water quality and quantity requirements for domestic water uses.
- Stipulate resource activities on public land within the corridor watershed that would have the potential to degrade water quality of quantity of the Grande Ronde River.

Recreational

- Develop maintenance and improvement programs to increase public use facilities and utilities.
- Increase new road development on public lands to increase user opportunities.
- Continue maintenance of transportation systems including state, county, and private roads.
- Implement developmental procedures for the recreational use from Minam, Oregon to Heller Bar, Washington in regards to maximum public use.
- Develop and implement monitoring methods to determine maximum visitor use of the corridor. Continue monitoring process to insure appropriate changes in visitor use possibilities.
- Open river corridor to both motorized and non-motorized watercraft.
- Voluntary river registration for all recreational users of the Grande Ronde corridor.
- Improve river staging and camping areas to include handicap and family opportunity requirements, additional vehicle parking, boat access, and restroom facilities.

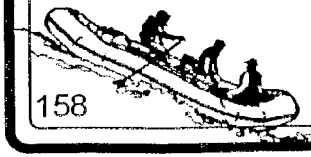
- Continue commercial permit programs for river outfitters that require one permit for all administrative jurisdictions.
- Maintain physical resources to insure the continuation and expansion of recreation based industries.
- Develop an information and education program for the public on the protection of aesthetic properties of the corridor.
- During construction projects, incorporate visual design criteria that are compatible with the corridor's characteristic landscape.
- Inventory aesthetic values in the river corridor.
- Maintenance activities will meet visual resource requirements.

Cultural

- Implement a systematic program of inventory and evaluation for cultural resources on public lands, including traditional use areas and cultural values.
- Conduct weekly patrols of all cultural resource sites and install protection signs to discourage vandalism; conduct periodic aerial and remote surveillance of highly vulnerable sites.
- Develop an information and education program for the general public on the protection of the cultural and aesthetic properties of the corridor.
- Complete baseline documentation of sensitive archaeological and historical sites.
- Develop cooperative agreements with the Nez Perce tribe to maintain the preservation of their traditions and treaty rights as well as cultural sites.
- Develop interagency, tribal, and private landowner agreements to protect cultural sites.
- Conduct annual monitoring of cultural resources on public lands in high use areas. Annually monitor sites in the Snake River National Register District.
- Restrict or exclude camping as necessary to protect cultural resource sites.
- Complete administrative or legal property surveys to protect cultural resources on public lands from trespass and illegal actions.

Public Land

- Develop cooperative agreements between all involved agencies groups.
- Management actions within the corridor must conform to existing local, county and state zoning standards and requirements.
- Maintain the current Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) and Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA) through Baker Resource Management Plan.
- Develop and implement intensive visitor awareness programs for river resources and user interrelationships, along with river resource policies (ie...carry in/carry out).
- Develop and implement awareness programs (ie...posters/signs/published articles) to accommodate residents and non-residents on types of river resource experiences in both seasonal periods and transportational methods.
- Develop intensive awareness programs between private landowners, users, and the general public on rights and responsibilities of all involved parties.



- Assist Asotin county in broadening the economic base of various communities through recreation cost share and grant programs.

- Develop cooperative agreements between Washington Department of Wildlife and private landowners for protection and maintenance of riparian habitats.

- Minimize human impacts through the use of intensive public awareness programs.

- Agricultural practices on public land administered by Washington Department of Wildlife will utilize current ground manipulation, herbicide, and pesticide applications for producing desired forage.

- Mineral extraction is allowed within the river corridor under existing BLM policy requirements.

- Mineral extraction on public land will require a plan of operation, demonstrating protection of river values.

- Continue present fire suppression agreements between respective agencies.

- Livestock grazing of the corridor will be allowed on public land through permit licensing by the respective agency.

- Seasons of use and rotation systems to disperse livestock and achieve desired utilization levels will be established through the development of grazing plans.

- Fencing, water developments and holding facilities will be developed at critical locations to assist livestock management.

- Reintroduce fire as an effective vegetative management tool through the use of prescribed burns.

- Eliminate or reduce to acceptable levels of fuel build-up and hazards that are a result of past management and/or natural catastrophic events.

- Implement monitoring and management practices in conformance with federal and state regulations.

- Develop an acquisition/easement program to maximize resource potential under this alternative. Agencies will not actively pursue land acquisitions or easements.

- Develop contingency plans for proper action during emergency situations.

- Develop a list of possible members for an informal problem solving work group.

- Implement cooperative inter-agency agreements to develop adequate law enforcement policies and patrol criteria and responsibilities of each agency.

- Develop intensive public awareness programs and signing plans to clearly identify boundary lines between public and private lands.

- Existing water rights will not be affected by management actions in this plan.

- Increase new road development on public lands to increase user opportunities.

- Continue maintenance of transportation systems including state, county, and private roads.

Private Land

- Continue existing water rights of landowners, while maintaining minimum flow requirements according to Washington Department of Wildlife.

- Develop management actions within the corridor and basin to insure the existing life-styles of corridor residents, while maximizing corridor conditions and public use.

- Continue existing uses of private land within the corridor as directed by Asotin County Shoreline Regulations.

- Livestock watering and irrigation uses of the river will continue.

Alternative B (Preferred Alternative):

Protect and/or enhance natural values while recognizing private landowner interests and rights.

Environmental

- Protect the natural scenic and geologic values of the designated Grande Ronde Goosenecks National Natural Landmark in Oregon and Washington.

- Develop control systems for weeds, insects and disease to include herbicides, pesticides, fire, plowing seeding and biological controls. Develop agreements with County Weed Control District.

- Agricultural practices on public land administered by Washington Department of Wildlife will utilize current ground manipulation, herbicide, and pesticide applications for producing desired forage.

- Develop regulations and facilities to require mandatory pack-out of human waste and garbage. River Ranger patrols will assist in corridor maintenance.

- Assess impacts of chemical application to plant and animal populations prior to use. Integrated pest management should be encouraged as an alternative to chemical application where appropriate.

- Monitor, identify and implement programs that have the least environmental impact on the river ecosystems with emphasis on Threatened and Endangered Species and habitats.

- Resource management actions within the corridor will meet minimum water quality standards as set by Washington Department of Ecology.

- Cooperate in developing a water monitoring program to assist agencies and private land owners in meeting water quality and quantity requirements for flow-dependent resources and domestic and public uses.

- Water quality monitoring on public lands will be conducted within the corridor as needed to determine point and non-point source pollution.

- Regulate resource activities on public lands within the corridor watershed that would have the potential to degrade water quality of quantity of the Grande Ronde River.

- Identify sources of pollution within the corridor and correct where economically and physically feasible.

- Optimize resource activities to enhance wildlife and fish populations by utilizing instream and riparian improvement projects.

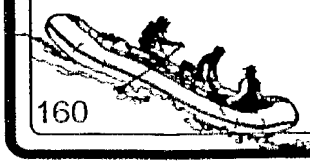
- Maintain or enhance fish and wildlife populations using current and updated management practices as determined by WDW, WDF, Nez Perce tribe, and related agencies.

- Improve habitat for species that fall under the Federal Threatened and Endangered Species Act.

- Monitor and assess fish and wildlife ecological requirements to enhance existing populations of corridor species.

- Develop cooperative agreements between agencies and private landowners for protection and enhancement of riparian habitat.

- Maintain or enhance riparian habitats through utilization of current and updated management practices.



- Develop monitoring activities of corridor fish and wildlife populations to insure long term biodiversity and productivity.

- Management activities within the corridor will enhance existing flora, fauna and physical elements.

- Maintenance activities will meet visual and cultural resource requirements.

RECREATIONAL

- Develop and utilize a work group to assist in the implementation of the plan and the formulation of recreation monitoring indicators and standards utilizing the limits of acceptable change process.

- Improve river staging and camping areas to include disabled and family opportunity requirements.

- Develop volunteer programs to assist agencies in corridor management in all resource fields.

- A special use authorization will be required for all commercial recreation services. A single outfitter-guide permit will be issued which authorizes use on all administrative jurisdictions.

- Outfitter-guide permits will remain open to applicants who have basic technical and financial capability, providing they follow the prescribed administrative process. Permits will not be reissued to permit holders who receive an "unacceptable" performance rating by the land manager.

- Retain the existing character of the landscape with only a low level of change. Activities may be seen but should not attract attention. Manage public land as a visual resource management class II.

- Continue corridor use for both motorized and non-motorized watercraft.

- Maintain physical resources to insure the continuation of recreation based industries.

- Trail construction, reconstruction and maintenance will be encouraged along the slopes above the river. Trails and trail use will be discouraged as access to the river. Recreation trails will not be constructed within 500 vertical feet of the river, unless the horizontal distance is a minimum of one mile.

- Signing should enable floaters to orient themselves on maps. Public land and facilities should be clearly marked. Geographic features identified as a convenience to users and to instill confidence in orienteering skills.

CULTURAL

- Implement a systematic program of inventory and evaluation for cultural resources on public lands, including traditional use areas and cultural values.

- Conduct weekly patrols of all cultural resource sites and install protection signs to discourage vandalism; conduct periodic aerial and remote surveillance of highly vulnerable sites.

- Develop a public awareness program for the general public on the protection of the cultural resources of the corridor.

- Complete baseline documentation of sensitive archaeological and historical sites.

- Develop cooperative agreements with the Nez Perce tribe to maintain the preservation of their traditions and treaty rights as well as cultural sites.

- Develop interagency and tribal agreements for the protection of cultural sites.

- Conduct annual monitoring of cultural resources on public lands in high use areas.

- Annually monitor sites in the Snake River National Register District.

- Restrict or exclude camping or livestock grazing as necessary to protect cultural resource sites.

- Complete administrative or legal property surveys to protect cultural resources on public lands from trespass and illegal actions.

- Protect and enhance cultural resource sites and traditional use locations through administrative or physical protection measures, stabilization or documentation.

PUBLIC LAND

- Authorized livestock grazing of the corridor will be allowed on public land through permit licensing by the appropriate agency with individual grazing permittees and managed to achieve the monitoring standard for riparian communities.

- Seasons of use and rotation systems to disperse livestock and achieve desired utilization levels as shown on Table 14, will be established through the development of grazing plans.

- Fencing, water developments and holding facilities will be developed at critical locations to protect resource values and assist livestock management, subject to visual resource constraints.

- Reintroduce fire as an effective vegetative management tool through the use of prescribed burns.

- Eliminate or reduce to acceptable levels of fuel build-up and hazards that are a result of past management and/or natural catastrophic events.

- Continue present fire suppression agreements between appropriate agencies.

- Agricultural practices on public land administered by Washington Department of Wildlife will utilize current ground manipulation, herbicide, and pesticide applications for producing desired forage.

- Mineral extraction on public land will require a plan of operation, demonstrating protection of river values. Within 200 feet of the mean high water mark each side of the river mineral extraction is prohibited as directed by Asotin County Shoreline Management Plan.

- Develop a public awareness plan for all users on river resources, public and private use, management policies and user responsibilities.

- Assist Asotin county in broadening the economic bases of various communities through resource cost share and grant programs.

- Develop appropriate cooperative agreements as necessary between all involved agencies and groups for management of the river and implementation of this plan.

- Minimize new road development on public land within the river corridor.

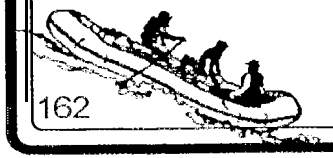
- Develop contingency plans for proper action during emergency situations.

- Valid holders of water rights would be unaffected. Management plans will be implemented to maintain instream flows, based on the Baker RMP and the Washington Divisions of Wildlife and Fisheries recommendations.

- Implement cooperative inter-agency agreements to develop adequate law enforcement policies and patrol criteria and responsibilities of each agency.

- Develop a signing plan to clearly identify boundary lines between public and private lands.

- Initiate a private land acquisition program from willing sellers only. Private party initiated easement/acquisition proposals will be processed on a priority basis. No condemnation of private land will occur.



- Develop maintenance and improvement programs to enhance public use facilities.

- Continue maintenance of transportation systems including state, county, and private roads.

- Agricultural practices on public land administered by Washington Department of Wildlife will utilize current ground manipulation, herbicide, and pesticide applications for producing desired forage.

- Authorize existing unauthorized Agricultural, occupancy and other uses under a 302 permit as long as they are compatible with Asotin County Shoreline Management Plan and consistent with BLM Resource Management Plan objectives.

- Continue maintenance of existing utility systems.

- New utility systems will be compatible with Asotin County Shoreline Management Plan and consistent with BLM Resource Management Plan objectives.

- Review all withdrawals within river corridor as to whether they are being used and/or meet current objectives. Withdrawal continued use will be justified by the withdrawal agency.

Private Land

- Valid holders of water rights on private and municipal lands would be unaffected. Management plans will be implemented to maintain instream flows, based on Washington Divisions of Wildlife and Fisheries recommendations and the Asotin County Shoreline program.

- Agricultural uses of the river will continue.

- Continue existing uses of private land within the corridor as directed by Asotin County Shoreline Regulations.

- Assess impacts of chemical application to plant and animal populations prior to use. Integrated pest management should be encouraged as an alternative to chemical application where appropriate.

- Develop agreements with County Weed Control District and Asotin County Shoreline Commission, and those agencies responsible for Threatened and Endangered plants and animals.

- Develop management actions within the corridor and basin that maintain the existing life-styles of corridor residents, while protecting corridor values and public use.

- Within 200 feet of the mean high water mark each side of the river mineral extraction is prohibited as directed by Asotin County Shorelines Management Plan.

- New transportation requirements on private land will meet Asotin county Shoreline Standards within the corridor.

Alternative C:

Protect and enhance natural values. Emphasize recreation opportunities compatible with resource protection.

Environmental

- Agricultural practices on public land administered by Washington Department of Wildlife will utilize current ground manipulation, herbicide, and pesticide applications for producing desired forage.

- Maintain current maintenance of transportation systems including state, county and private roads with the stipulation that maintenance activities will meet the visual and cultural resource requirements.

- No new roads will be built on public land.

- Maintenance activities will meet visual and cultural resource requirements.
- New transportation requirements on private land will meet Asotin County Shoreline standards within the corridor.
- Maximize resource activities to enhance wildlife and fish populations by utilizing instream and riparian improvement projects.
- Maintain or enhance fish and wildlife populations using current and updated management practices as determined by WDW, WDF, Nez Perce tribe, and related agencies.
- Improve habitat requirements for species that fall under the Federal Threatened and Endangered Species Act.
- Monitor and assess fish and wildlife ecological requirements to enhance existing populations of corridor species.
- Develop cooperative agreements between Washington Department of Wildlife and private landowners for protection and enhancement of riparian habitats.
- Maintain or enhance riparian habitats through utilization of current and updated management practices.
- Develop monitoring activities of corridor fish and wildlife populations to insure long term biodiversity and productivity.
- Management activities within the corridor will enhance flora, fauna and physical elements most similar to baseline conditions.
- Water quality monitoring on public lands will be conducted within the corridor as needed to determine cause, extent, and location of point and non-point source pollution.
- Resource management actions within the corridor will exceed minimum water quality standards as set by Washington Department of Ecology.
- Develop a water monitoring program to assist agencies and private landowners in water quality and quantity requirements for fish, wildlife, and riparian community enhancement.
- Identify sources of pollution within the corridor and correct where economically and physically feasible.
- Eliminate resource activities on public land within the corridor watershed that would have the potential to degrade water quality or quantity of the river.

RECREATIONAL

- Develop and implement monitoring methods to determine maximum visitor use of the corridor without causing habitat resource damage.
- Maintain current maintenance of transportation systems including state, county and private roads with the stipulation that maintenance activities will meet the visual and cultural resource requirements.
- Maintain river staging and camping areas along the corridor.
- Develop monitoring studies to determine the social carrying capacity of the river corridor.
- Implement party size limitations when monitoring studies determine that social use exceeds habitats ability for non-impact camping and recreational use.
- Continue commercial permit programs for river outfitters that require one permit for all administrative jurisdictions.
- Inventory and evaluate the aesthetic values along the river corridor.

- Develop an intensive information and education program for the general public on the protection of the aesthetic properties of the corridor.

- Stipulate development projects, including resource commodity uses, to insure that management activities are subordinate to the characteristic landscape and do not dominate the immediate viewshed.

- During recreation construction projects, incorporate visual design criteria that are compatible with the corridor's characteristic landscape.

- Implement mandatory recreational permit registration, fire pans, and pack out of human waste.

- Close river corridor to motorized watercraft.

CULTURAL

- Implement a systematic program of inventory and evaluation for cultural resources on public lands, including traditional use areas and cultural values.

- Conduct weekly patrols of all cultural resource sites and install protection signs to discourage vandalism; conduct periodic aerial and remote surveillance of highly vulnerable sites.

- Develop an intensive information and education program for the general public on the protection of the cultural and aesthetic properties of the corridor.

- Complete baseline documentation of sensitive archaeological and historical sites.

- Develop cooperative agreements with the Nez Perce tribe to maintain the preservation of their traditions and treaty rights as well as cultural sites.

- Develop interagency, tribal, and private landowner agreements for the protection of cultural resources.

- Conduct annual monitoring of cultural resources on public lands in high use areas.

- Annually monitor sites in the Snake River National Register District.

- Restrict or exclude camping as necessary to protect cultural resource sites.

- Complete administrative or legal property surveys to protect cultural resources on public lands from trespass and illegal actions.

PUBLIC LAND

- Actively pursue private land acquisitions (including condemnation actions) to reserve the naturalness of the corridor.

- Initiate trespass actions on unauthorized use of public land by livestock within the corridor.

- Monitor and assess current management activities with regards to possible external sources of influence as well as within the river corridor.

- Existing water rights will not be affected by management actions in this plan.

- Continue present fire suppression agreements between appropriate agencies.

- Develop intensive visitor awareness programs for river corridor resources to promote natural value preservation.

- Mineral extraction on public lands will not be allowed.

- Eliminate domestic livestock grazing within the river corridor on public land.

- Agricultural practices on public land administered by Washington Department of Wildlife will utilize current ground manipulation, herbicide, and pesticide applications for producing desired forage.
- Develop a list of possible members for an informal problem solving work group.
- Assess cost estimate in regards to possible catastrophic events, legislation and economic efficiency.
- Develop contingency plans for proper action during emergency situations including catastrophic events.
- Implement monitoring and management practices in conformance with federal and state regulations.
- Develop cooperative agreements between all involved agencies and groups.
- No new roads will be built on public lands.
- Management actions are to enhance the naturalness of the corridor and could adversely affect the existing rural life-styles of the corridor residents.
- Implement cooperative inter-agency agreements to develop adequate law enforcement policies and patrol criteria and responsibilities for each agency.

Private Land

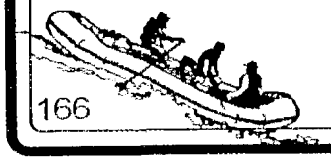
- Assess cost estimate in regards to possible catastrophic events, legislation and economic efficiency.
- Develop contingency plans for proper action during emergency situations including catastrophic events.
- Management actions could adversely affect the existing life-styles of the corridor residents to maintain maximum naturalness of the corridor.
- Develop monitoring programs to assess large and small effects to the river corridor and surrounding area. Implement any policies needed to adjust for negative sociological implications.
- Eliminate domestic livestock grazing within the river corridor on public land.
- Implement management practices of resource utilization in the agricultural industries to enhance natural values.
- Implement studies to determine possible acquisition and easements to maximize corridor potential for protection of natural values.
- Existing water rights will not be affected by management actions in this plan.
- Livestock watering and irrigation uses of the river will continue.

Alternative D:

No Action beyond present management direction from various agencies.

Environmental

- Agricultural practices on public land administered by Washington Department of Wildlife will utilize current ground manipulation, herbicide, and pesticide applications for producing desired forage.
- Resource management actions will maintain the current water quality of the river corridor.



- Maintain habitats for all species that fall under the Federal Threatened and Endangered Species Act.

- Implement management practices in conformance with federal and state regulations.

Recreational

- Maintain the existing river facilities at Boggan's and Heller Bar to serve as a visitor contact station.

- Voluntary river registration for all recreation users of the river corridor.

- Inventory aesthetic values along the river corridor.

- Stipulate maintenance and construction activities to protect aesthetic values.

- Continue the commercial permit program for river outfitters that requires one permit for all administrative jurisdictions.

- Voluntary use of fire pans and pack out of human waste.

Cultural

- Implement a systematic program of inventory and evaluation for cultural resources on public lands, including traditional use areas and cultural values.

- Conduct periodic patrols of all cultural resource sites and install protection signs to discourage vandalism.

- Complete baseline documentation of sensitive archaeological and historical sites.

- Develop cooperative agreements with the Nez Perce tribe to maintain the preservation of their traditions and treaty rights as well as cultural sites.

- Conduct annual monitoring of sensitive cultural resources on public lands in high use areas. Annually monitor sites in the Snake River National Register District.

- Complete administrative or legal property surveys to protect cultural resources on public lands from trespass and illegal actions.

Public Land

- Agencies will not actively pursue land acquisitions or easements.

- Cattle grazing of the corridor will be allowed on public land through permit licensing by the appropriate agency.

- Continue maintenance of transportation systems, including state, county and private roads.

- Implement management practices in conformance with to federal and state regulations.

- Minimize human impacts to wildlife habitats and populations through public awareness programs.

- Minimize road development on public land within the river corridor.

- Maintain cooperative agreements between WDW and WDF.

- Seasons of use and rotation systems to disperse livestock and achieve desired utilization levels will be established through the development of grazing plans.

- Agricultural practices on public land administered by Washington Department of Wildlife will utilize current ground manipulation, herbicide, and pesticide applications for producing desired forage.

- Maintain management activities that will not adversely affect the existing rural life-styles of the corridor residents.

- Manage for existing and prescribed levels of resource utilization in the agricultural industries to meet current demand.

- Existing water rights will not be affected by management actions in this plan.

- Mineral extraction is allowed within the recreation classification segments and closed to mineral extraction in the wild classification segment.

- Mineral extraction on public lands will require a plan of operation, demonstrating protection of Wild and Scenic river values.

- Initiate trespass actions on unauthorized use of corridor by livestock.

- Continue present fire suppression agreements between appropriate agencies.

Private Land

- Existing water rights will not be affected by management actions in this plan.

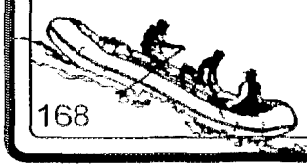
- Continue maintenance of transportation systems, including state, county and private roads.

- Minimize road development on public land within the river corridor.

- Develop management actions within the corridor and basin to insure the existing life-styles of corridor residents, while maintaining current corridor conditions.

- Manage for existing and prescribed levels of resource utilization in the agricultural industries to meet current demand.

- Livestock watering and irrigation uses of the river will continue.



Impacts of Alternatives

Environmental

Alternative A: Although developing cooperative agreements between WDW & WDF and private landowners, and stipulating management activities to maintain flora, fauna, and physical elements, will undoubtedly help to protect populations and health that now exist, no improvement programs will occur. This will stagnate the current populations. With the increase in recreational use, these maintenance activities will not be able to continue to offset the impacts from the increased numbers and occurrence of that use.

The impacts from the maintenance of habitat requirements for fish and wildlife populations as well as threatened and endangered species will neither benefit nor deter those population numbers. By simply maintaining the required habitats, those species populations, both sensitive and non-sensitive, will fail to increase. In the case of threatened and endangered species, this stagnation will defeat the purpose of the Threatened and Endangered Species Act which is to improve the populations of those listed species to the point of removing them from the endangered list. Though the goal of this alternative is to maintain the habitats of species that fall under the Threatened and Endangered Species Act, the increased use along the corridor would have the opposite affect. Adverse impacts to both plant and animal species would result from increased levels of recreation use, especially camping, motorized and non-motorized boating. Primary impacts would occur as a result of disturbance to the animals as well as habitat damage in both aquatic and riparian habitats.

The voluntary use of fire pans and packing out of human waste will help aid in decreasing the accumulation and degradation of the corridor only to the amount of involvement undertaken by the public. If public involvement is slight, then the current degrading trend within the corridor will continue.

The impacts from establishing control systems for weed, insects, and disease through the use of herbicides, pesticides, fire, plowing/seeding and biological controls in combination with agricultural practices administered by WDW will benefit the corridor by improving desired vegetation, forage quality and increase the riparian health.

Under this alternative, the quality of the water located in the corridor would be greatly improved. Through water quality monitoring programs designed to meet minimum standards of the WDF, resource activity stipulations, and pollution suppression/control projects, the quality of the water resource of the corridor will be significantly enhanced.

Stipulating the development of new transportational systems on private land will help to decrease the adverse affects that such construction would have on the corridor vegetation and viewshed.

Alternative B (Preferred Alternative): The impacts from establishing control systems for weed, insects, and disease through the use of herbicides, pesticides, fire, plowing/seeding and biological controls in combination with agricultural practices administered by WDW will benefit the corridor by improving desired vegetation, forage quality and increase the riparian health. This improvement will also benefit the private landowner who has legal authority to let cattle graze the corridor.

The agricultural practices administered by WDW will create an increase in quality and quantity of desired forage species. This increase will improve the visual condition and health of the corridor riparian areas, wildlife, and domestic grazing populations as well.

The impacts from establishing water quality monitoring programs will be the same as alternative A.

The impacts from pollution identification and correction programs will be the same as alternative A.

The impacts from management actions to enhance flora, fauna and physical elements will be the same as alternative A.

The impacts from maintenance activities on cultural and visual requirements will be the same as alternative A.

The impacts from establishing new transportation on private land will be the same as alternative A.

The development of mandatory pack out of human waste and garbage will significantly decrease the indiscriminate waste accumulation within the river corridor. This action will improve corridor health.

Assessing the implications of chemical applications to plant and animal species will ensure that no accidental damage to either values could occur from this application. By careful chemical applications or integrated pest management processes, the environmental health of the corridor can be improved for both wildlife and domestic populations.

Monitoring and implementing programs that least affect the corridors ecosystems will insure that no catastrophic accidents will occur to threatened and endangered species located within the corridor. Agreements with the County Weed District will aid in this action.

By maximizing resource activities, such as riparian and instream improvement projects, to meet the requirements of fish and wildlife populations will increase or enhance the visual aesthetics of those values. With the development of cooperative agreements between agencies and landowners for the protection and improvement of these values using current and updated management practices as determined by WDW & WDF, will continue to stabilize resources within the corridor.

Implementing the improvement of habitat requirements for species that fall under the Threatened and Endangered Species Act will help to ensure the survival of those species found within the river corridor. By establishing monitoring programs to update the habitat requirements for these and other species within the corridor will help ensure the long term biodiversity and productivity of sensitive and non-sensitive species.

The establishment of management actions to enhance flora, fauna, and physical elements will improve the overall condition of the corridor for both wildlife and plant populations.

Stipulating new transportational developments on private land to meet Asotin county Shoreline Standards will slightly hinder private landowners if need arises for new road construction.

Alternative C: The impacts from agricultural practices administered by WDW will be the same as the Preferred Alternative.

The impacts from maintaining visual and cultural requirements will be positive on the corridor condition. By maintaining these requirements, the existing naturalness of the corridors river values will be protected and enhanced.

The impacts from new transportational systems on private land will be the same as the alternative A.

Maintenance of current transportation systems including county, state and private roads, and eliminating new road construction, will maintain the current natural values of the corridor.

The impacts from the enhancement of habitat requirements for fish and wildlife populations as well as threatened and endangered species will be extremely beneficial to those populations. By improving the required habitats, those species populations, both sensitive and non-sensitive, will show a significant increase. In the case of threatened and endangered species, this increase could improve the populations of those listed species to the point of removing them from the endangered list.

The impacts from management activities to improve flora, fauna, and physical elements of the corridor will be beneficial to the corridor. Enhancement of these characteristics will increase the visual aesthetics and naturalness of the corridor.

The impacts from establishing water quality monitoring programs, and pollution identification/correction will be the same as alternative A.

Alternative D: This alternative would maintain the existing conditions within the river corridor.

The impacts from agricultural practices administered by WDW will be the same as alternative B.

By establishing of management actions to maintain current water quality within the corridor will continue on the trend of increased water degradation.

The impacts from the maintenance of habitat requirements for threatened and endangered species will neither benefit nor deter those population numbers. By simply maintaining the required habitats, those species populations will fail to increase. In the case of threatened and endangered species, this stagnation will defeat the purpose of the Threatened and Endangered Species Act which is to improve the populations of those listed species to the point of removing them from the endangered list.

Implementing management practices in conformance with federal and state regulations will ensure that all of the requirements necessary for the river corridor are met under an official and authorized management program.

Recreational

Alternative A: Improving the river staging and camping areas to include handicap and family opportunity requirements, additional vehicle parking, boat access, and restroom facilities would create a more diverse recreational area. These improvements would increase visitor recreation by increasing the different opportunities and desires of users.

Opening the river to both motorized and non-motorized watercraft would increase the availability for the different uses of the corridor causing an increase in the recreational use and user conflicts.

Maintaining the existing river facilities at Boggan's and Heller Bar will continue to serve as a contact point for the public. But in their current condition, public information capabilities are extremely limited.

Maintaining current transportational methods and increasing new road development will aid the recreational user by improving access, and availability of the river corridor. With the development of new access roads, it could be

possible for recreational users to reach specific points within the corridor (ie...The Narrows, Line Falls, etc.).

Developing recreation facilities and improving access from Minam, Oregon to Heller Bar, Washington will greatly increase the user visitation along the corridor. This implementation will provide a more complete program in the form of use, information, law enforcement, and recreational opportunities. Developing more complete and uniform corridor management programs will increase the user awareness of management practices.

Increasing developmental procedures from Minam, Oregon, to Heller Bar, Washington, will improve the recreational opportunity of river users. Continuation of commercial permit programs for river outfitters that require one permit for all administrative jurisdictions along with voluntary river registration for all recreational users will help with the visitor awareness programs and implementation of river policies (ie...pack in/pack out).

Maintenance of physical resources will ensure the visual aesthetics and appeal of the corridor to recreational users.

Monitoring of visitor use levels will enable management activities to adjust for negative and positive impacts to the corridor in relation to visitor numbers.

Under this alternative the current commercial permit and voluntary recreational registration programs will continue. The information gathered from these programs will aid management agencies with the amount of visitor use and corridor health in comparison to that use.

Alternative B (Preferred Alternative): The impacts from visitor use monitoring would enable management agencies to adjust activities if a negative impact should begin to affect the natural values or private landowners found within the corridor.

Determination of carrying capacities and possible party size limitations would affect the recreational use of the corridor. Limiting party size would affect the recreation experience of both motorized and non-motorized boaters, resulting in a net loss of recreation opportunities for those having boats capable of carrying more people. However, limiting party size for motorized and non-motorized users would control or prohibit the use of larger boats and tour groups. This would have a slightly beneficial impact on the overall recreation experience of other users

The establishment of river staging areas, camping, and information improvements will be of a negative impact. These improvements will increase the amount of visitor use and therefore increase the amount of conflict between private landowner interests and recreational interests. Improving the information and education program will help to reduce this conflict through visitor awareness, nevertheless the conflicts will continue.

The impacts from continuation of the commercial permit programs for the river outfitters will be the same as alternative A.

The impacts from motorized and non-motorized watercraft will be the same as alternative A.

The impacts from the maintenance of physical resources on recreation based industries will be the same as alternative A.

The development of volunteer programs will be an important asset to the management of the corridor. By performing routine patrols, these volunteers will be able to ensure that all management policies are being observed and maintained.

Continuing current transportational and utility maintenance will keep access to the river corridor in its present state, and not disturb the currently existing natural values of the corridor. Stipulating new road construction on private land to meet Asotin county Shoreline Regulations will also keep the visual aesthetics of the corridor undamaged. This continuation/maintenance will ensure that private landowners will retain the ability of corridor access.

Alternative C: The establishment of monitoring methods to determine maximum visitor use or carrying capacity and implementation of party size limitations will help to maintain the maximum possible use of the corridor without damage to the natural aspects of the corridor.

Maintenance of current transportational systems will continue the existing access of the corridor use. Stipulation of these activities to meet visual/ cultural requirements will also maintain corridor health and visual appearance.

The implementation of mandatory recreational permit registration, fire pans, pack out of human waste, and continuation of commercial permit program will increase the appeal and health of the corridor. The enforcement of these actions will eliminate the indiscriminate disposal of human waste and also give an accurate account of visitor use. This information will allow managing agencies to adjust to changes in recreational use in regards to the naturalness of the corridor.

Maintaining existing staging and camping areas would cause more trampling, bank erosion and vegetation loss, also resulting in further degradation of fish and wildlife habitat. By determining the social carrying capacity of the corridor and limiting boat numbers or group size would result in decrease in numbers of river users. This decreased use would result in fewer disturbances to wildlife and less degradation of wildlife habitat. In addition, allowing camping at all existing sites would result in a continuation of significant, adverse impacts on riparian soil and vegetation, in turn resulting in degradation of fish and wildlife habitat.

Banning motorized watercraft from the corridor would cause a significant decrease in adverse impacts to wildlife resulting from motorized recreation use. By eliminating motorized use, the disturbance and displacement of animals (ie...bald eagle) along the corridor would be greatly reduced.

Alternative D: Maintenance of the existing river administrative facilities at Boggan's and Heller Bar will severely limit the information ability of the managing agencies. Without improvement of those facilities, the knowledge acquired by the public will remain random and informal. Without proper understanding by river users, any management activity undertaken will be significantly handicapped.

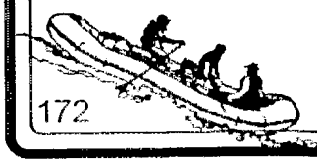
Under this alternative the current commercial permit program and voluntary recreational registration program, and voluntary pack out of human waste will continue. The information gathered from these programs will aid management agencies in regards to visitor use and impacts on corridor health. Without firmer restrictions on corridor use in the form of mandatory registration and pack out of human waste, the continued degradation of the corridor through indiscriminate disposal of waste will continue. Without complete information on the recreational use of the river, management actions designed around those numbers will be ineffective.

Cultural

Alternative A: Development associated with maximization of resource uses, increased visitor use and improved access (motorized craft and new road construction) in the river corridor would result in increased incidents of vandalism to cultural resources. Developing cooperative tribal, landowner and law enforcement agreements, signing public lands, information and education programs, systematic inventories and gathering of baseline documentation, intensive patrols and regular monitoring of cultural resources would be beneficial to the protection of cultural resources.

Alternative B (Preferred Alternative): Continued motorized river access and maximizing opportunities for recreation uses would result in increased incidents of vandalism. Limiting grazing to spring use would minimize impacts from trampling, and would be beneficial to protection of cultural resources. Minimizing new road developments, in conjunction with programs for interagency/tribal agreements, law enforcement, education, intensive patrol and signing would increase cultural resource protection.

Alternative C: Maximum protection for cultural resources is provided by this alternative. Exclusion of motorized river access, no new roads, and resource use restrictions will reduce incidents of vandalism. Elimination of livestock grazing will reduce trampling on cultural sites. Law enforcement and landowner agreements; education and inventory/monitoring programs; and intensive, weekly patrols would be beneficial to the protection of resources in the river corridor.



Periodic patrols, limited project monitoring, and project-initiated inventories will provide some protection to sensitive resources located in high use zones, but will lead to gradual loss of cultural values and archaeological/historical site integrity to both natural forces and unauthorized human-caused action. Lack of public land signing, law enforcement, and cooperative agreement programs would encourage illegal activities adversely affecting cultural resources on federal lands.

Public Land

Alternative A: Through a rotational system of grazing, some of the effects of grazing would be reduced. However, by maintaining corridor grazing, the condition of the riparian areas, campsite and shoreline cleanliness and soil compaction due to use would be damaging. Through continued use, unprotected springs and seep areas would continue to be damaged by soil compaction and erosion. The development of holding facilities for water at critical locations would concentrate cattle activity to a specific area and therefore magnify the damage done in that location.

The reintroduction of fire as a vegetative management tool would have only temporary effects to the corridor viewshed. Although the visual aesthetics would be reduced for a short period of time, the reduction of fuel buildup along with new growth would significantly increase the corridor's riparian and forest health. In addition, by continuing current fire suppression agreements between BLM and appropriate agencies, catastrophic fire occurrences can be controlled or eliminated.

Mineral extraction along the corridor will have a minimal impact on the viewshed. By requiring a Plan of Operation for the protection of the corridor's river values, the current resource conditions will continue.

The development of intensive visitor awareness, and signing programs will improve interrelationships between users, private landowners, and all other involved agencies. This improvement will help minimize human impacts to the corridor and increase recreational opportunity awareness for both local and non-local residents. By assisting Asotin county in the form of cost share and grant programs will also improve relationships with the involved communities.

Agricultural practices administered by WDW will stabilize resource values of the corridor through the use of ground manipulation, herbicide, and pesticide applications. These efforts implemented by WDW will increase the amount and quality of desired forage for both domestic and wildlife grazing, therefore improving desired aesthetics for the public entity.

Cooperative agreements between all involved parties will also be implemented for the protection of the riparian habitats located within the corridor. These agreements will help maintain current Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) and Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA). All of these management practices must follow local, county, state, and federal regulations. The protection of these areas will ensure the health of the corridor.

By developing studies to determine if private land acquisition is required within the corridor, agencies will be able to develop acquisition and easement programs commensurate with resource values. This will keep land acquisitions by public agencies at a minimum level.

The implementation of cooperative inter-agency agreements for the development of adequate law enforcement programs, through the use of emergency contingency plans, informal problem solving work groups, and river patrols, protection of the corridor resources as well as those who use the corridor will be enhanced.

Maintaining the current transportation systems including state, county, and private roads as well at the development of new roads will increase the opportunities and access for recreational use.

Alternative B (Preferred Alternative): Development of rotational grazing plans, fencing, and water holding facilities at critical locations will assist livestock management. Implementing these management techniques will improve the quantity and quality of forage vegetation and the availability of water on land that is appropriately licensed.

The reintroduction of fire as an effective vegetative management tool, and to eliminate or reduce to acceptable levels of fuel build-up will also aid the

private landowner. Through the use of prescribed burns, the quality and quantity of desired cattle forage vegetation will be significantly improved. Cooperative fire suppression agreements between appropriate agencies will aid in the protection of the corridor in ensuring vegetative health by preventing untimely natural burns.

By developing and implementing studies to determine private land acquisition and easement needs to ensure resource protection within the corridor, only those private lands with high river values would be considered in an acquisition program. This acquisition program would only be undertaken with willing parties.

Monitoring programs designed to assess the negative impacts of management practices on surrounding communities will improve the relationships between managing agencies and the local populations. Aiming for the reduction of the negative impacts to the local populace will increase management awareness and cooperation of said population.

Developing recreation facilities and improving access from Minam, Oregon, to Heller Bar, Washington, will improve the recreational opportunity of river users. This implementation will provide a more complete program in the form of use, information, law enforcement, and help to reduce the conflicts between recreational users and private landowners.

Implementation of cooperative agreements between agencies to develop adequate law enforcement policies and patrol criteria in conformance with federal and state regulations will ensure that the regulations involved with river use are being observed.

The development of visitor awareness programs to improve the interrelationships between users and landowners would be beneficial to both parties. By improving the knowledge of the public and landowners on rights, responsibilities of corridor use, and location of private land along the corridor, altercations and misunderstanding between those parties would be reduced.

The implementation of contingency plans and problem solving work groups for the protection of public land and natural values will help to ensure the health of the corridor.

Continuation of current transportation systems including county, state and private roads, minimizing new road construction, and stipulating new transportation requirements on private land to meet Asotin County Shoreline guidelines will also maintain the current use and availability of the corridor to the residents.

The development of cooperative agreements between all involved agencies in conformance with federal and state regulations will improve the management potential of the corridor.

Assisting Asotin county in broadening their economic base through the use of resource cost share and grant programs will increase public awareness and involvement with management programs.

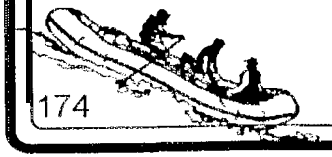
The impacts from agricultural practices will be the same as alternative A.

The Impacts from mineral extraction will be the same as alternative A.

Alternative C: Removal of all livestock from the public land within the corridor would result in an improvement in riparian soil condition. Eliminating adverse impacts caused by grazing livestock would allow for the recovery of vegetation species which have been suppressed by livestock use.

The development of intensive visitor awareness programs will inform the public on existing natural values and protection measures necessary to maintain those values. This information program will help to included public responsibility for that protection, and therefore increase the health and well being of those values.

Agricultural practices administered by WDW will be limited to ground manipulation for producing the desired forage. The effect on corridor health will still be of a positive nature, but the response by the corridor environment will be slow because of the limitation of improvement methods.



By eliminating new road development, the publics ability to reach the different recreational opportunities will remain as it presently exists. This action would hamper the recreational potential of the corridor.

The continuation of present fire suppression agreements will attempt to ensure that catastrophic damage from corridor located fires will be kept to a minimum.

The implementation of cooperative agreements to develop adequate law enforcement will be the same as alternative B.

Eliminating mineral extraction action within the corridor would remove the possibility of damage from mining and exploration on the viewshed.

Valid holders of water rights on private lands would be unaffected. Current management will be based on the Baker RMP and Recreation Area Management Plans, and the Washington Department of Ecology and Asotin County Shoreline Program. This should have little or no negative affects on the natural values of the corridor.

The establishment of cooperative agreements between all involved agencies in conformance with federal and state regulations will be the same as alternative B.

The development of contingency plans and informal problem solving work groups will have the same impact as alternative B.

By developing and implementing studies to determine private land acquisition and easements within the corridor, acquisitions and/or easements could have a detrimental affects on corridor residents if private landowners do not wish to participate.

The establishment of monitoring programs to assess the impact of management practices both inside and outside the corridor will ensure that positive as well as negative effects of management activities are adjusted.

The assessment of plan implementation estimates in regards to possible catastrophic events, legislation and economic efficiency will ensure that the management plans and actions have the potential to be affective.

All management actions will enhance the naturalness of the corridor and will alter the life-styles of corridor residents. By an active pursuit of land acquisition, current life-styles of the corridor residents cannot be maintained.

Alternative D: By continuing current fire suppression agreements between BLM and appropriate agencies, the present ability to control catastrophic fire occurrences will be maintained.

The minimization of road construction would decrease the access required by increased visitor use.

The impacts from cattle grazing and rotation systems of grazing will be the same as alternative A, except that under this alternative the initiating of aggressive trespass actions will be implemented on unauthorized use of the corridor.

Under this alternative the land acquisition/ easement program would not change from the current management. Agencies will only pursue acquisition from private parties who initiate the land transactions.

The continuation of mineral extraction within the recreational areas of the corridor will maintain the threat of land damage if large mineral deposits are discovered. Although all mining will require a plan of operation demonstrating protection of river values, the damage to natural values and primitiveness of the river corridor will be seriously affected.

The continuation of use of private land within the corridor, as directed by Asotin county zoning and the Asotin County Shoreline administrative rules, in the form of agricultural utilization will help to maintain the current life-styles of the corridor residents. Managing those activities with regards to maintaining the physical resources will also ensure the increase of recreational based industries.

The development of intensive visitor awareness programs will inform the public on recreational opportunities and requirements to minimize human impacts. This information program will help to included public responsibility for the protection, health and well being of those values.

The maintenance of transportation systems and utility, including county, state, and private roads will be the same as alternative A.

The impacts from continuation existing water rights will be the same as alternative C.

The impacts from agricultural practices administered by WDW will be the same as alternative A.

The development of cooperative agreements between all involved agencies will be the same as alternative A.

PRIVATE LAND

Alternative A: By maintaining management action to continue the uses of private land as directed by Asotin County Shoreline Regulations, continuing existing water rights, livestock watering and irrigation practices will ensure that no adverse impacts will occur to the life-styles of corridor residents.

Alternative B (Preferred Alternative): The impacts to existing water rights would be the same as alternative A.

The impacts to livestock watering and irrigation would be the same as alternative A.

The continuation of use of private land within the corridor, as directed by Asotin County Shoreline Committee, in the form of agricultural utilization, will help to maintain the current life-styles of the corridor residents. Managing those activities with regards to maintaining the physical resources will also ensure the increase of recreational based industries.

The impacts to existing rural life-styles will be the same as alternative A.

Assessing the implications of chemical applications to plant and animal species will help to ensure that no accidental damage to either values could occur from this application. By careful chemical applications or integrated pest management processes, the environmental health of the corridor can be improved.

Monitoring and implementing programs that affect the corridors ecosystems the least will ensure that no catastrophic accidents will occur to threatened and endangered species located within the corridor. Agreements with the County Weed District will aid in this action. The impacts from this action should have little or no affect the use of private land along the corridor.

The impacts from assisting Asotin county in broadening their economic base will be the same as alternative A.

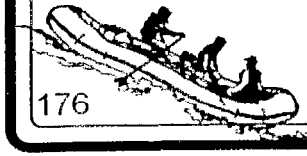
Continuation of current transportation and utility systems including county, state and private roads, watering of domestic livestock, existing water rights, and acquisition will occur from willing private landowners only. No condemnation of land will occur. This action will help to ensure the continuation of existing life-styles of the corridor residents.

Alternative C: The development of contingency plans will aid in response to and prevention of catastrophic occurrences within the corridor.

The impact of existing water rights will be the same as in alternative A.

The implementation of acquisition and easement studies to maximize natural value protection will aid in ensuring that all valuable resource characteristics will be included within the corridor boundaries.

Removal of all livestock from the public land within the corridor would result in a significant improvement in riparian vegetation, shoreline and soil condition Eliminating adverse impacts caused by grazing livestock would allow for the recovery of vegetation species which have been suppressed by livestock use.



The management of this alternative will affect the life-styles of the corridor residents. Through grazing restrictions, river value enhancement, and active land acquisition, it will be difficult for current residents to continue with the livelihoods that they now maintain (ie...agricultural & ranching industries).

The assessment of plan implementation estimates in regards to possible catastrophic events, legislation and economic efficiency will ensure that the management plans and actions have the potential to be affective.

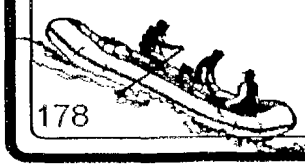
By developing management monitoring programs to assess negative impacts to the corridors surrounding communities, alternate policies can be incorporated to decrease these negative effects. This action will increase the positive relationship between the managing agencies and the public.

The implementation of management practices of agricultural resource utilization to enhance natural values will limit the adverse affects to the corridor. Although the damage to the natural state of the corridor will occur to some extent, stipulating the practices to maintain the naturalness should minimize the impacts.

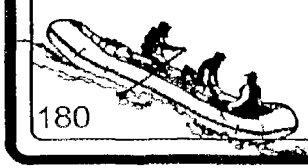
Alternative D: The impacts to existing life-styles, corridor based agricultural industries, livestock watering and irrigation will be the same as alternative B.

The minimization of new road construction within the corridor along with continued maintenance of transportation systems will maintain the current level of access for private landowners and recreational users to reach necessary areas.

Maintenance of current transportational systems including county, state, and private roads will ensure the current utilization levels by corridor residents and landowners along with recreational users.



CHAPTER 8 - APPENDICES



APPENDIX A - BOUNDARY DESCRIPTIONS

WALLOWA RIVER (Study River Boundary)

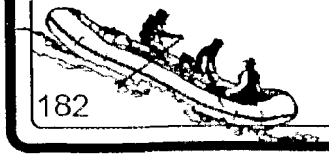
The Wallowa River administrative boundary adopted by the Forest Service during the National Wild and Scenic River Eligibility/Suitability Study is ¼ mile mean high water mark, each side of river and is in conformance with the Oregon State Scenic Waterway designation.

GRANDE RONDE WILD AND SCENIC RIVER BOUNDARY - Legal Descriptions

43.8 miles = 14,005.25 acres
Begin at Rondowa, Oregon proceed downstream

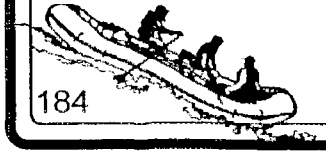
TOWNSHIP	RANGE	SECTION	SUBDIVISION	ACRES
3N	40E	23	All that port. of the NW¼ lying NW of BCC logging Rd. (known as freeway)	130.00
		4	N½N½;	160.00
			SW¼NE¼;	40.00
			S½NW¼;	80.00
			SW¼;	160.00
		11	S½NE¼;	80.00
			S½;	320.00
		12	W½;	320.00
			W½E½;	160.00

TOWNSHIP	RANGE	SECTION	SUBDIVISION	ACRES
3N	40E	1	Lot 2;	14.92
			Lot 3;	14.96
			SW¼NE¼;	40.00
			SE¼NW¼;	40.00
			W½SE¼;	80.00
			E½SW¼;	80.00
			E½SW¼SW¼;	20.00
4N	40E	36	E½;	320.00
			S½NE¼SW¼;	20.00
			SE¼SW¼.	40.00
4N	41E	31	NE¼NW¼;	40.00
			Lot 1;	40.96
			Lot 2;	41.19
			Lot 3;	41.39
4N	40E	5	E½E½;	160.00
4N	41E	30	E½W½;	160.00
			Lot 1;	40.28
			Lot 2;	40.45
			Lot 3;	40.63
			Lot 4;	40.80
4N	40E	24	E½E½;	160.00
			E½W½NE¼;	40.00
4N	41E	19	SW¼ of Lot 2;	10.18
			W½ of Lot 3;	20.26
			Lot 4;	40.30
4N	40E	13	E½;	320.00
4N	41E	18	W½NE¼NW¼;	20.00
			Lot 1;	40.99
			Lot 2;	41.00
			Lot 3;	41.02
			Lot 4;	41.03



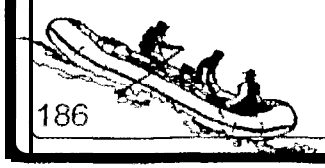
TOWNSHIP	RANGE	SECTION	SUBDIVISION	ACRES
4N	40E	12	E½E½;	160.00
			W½SE¼;	80.00
4N	41E	7	Lot 1;	40.14
			Lot 2;	40.39
			Lot 3;	40.63
			Lot 4;	40.86
			NE¼;	160.00
			E½NW¼;	80.00
			NE¼SW¼;	40.00
			N½SE¼SW¼;	20.00
			SW¼SE¼SW¼;	10.00
		6	NE¼SE¼;	40.00
			S½SE¼;	80.00
		5	Lot 1;	34.75
			Lot 2;	34.65
			E½ of Lot 3;	17.28
			SW¼;	160.00
			NW¼SE¼;	40.00
5N	4 E	32	Lot 3;	44.11
			Lot 4;	30.28
			Lot 5;	8.05
		33	Lot 1;	23.75
			Lot 2;	39.83
			Lot 3;	12.42
			Lot 4;	48.09
			Lot 5;	56.06
			Lot 6;	19.81
			Lot 7;	14.77
			Lot 8;	41.33
			Lot 9;	35.15
			N½ of Lot 10;	22.10
			E½NW¼;	80.00
			SW¼NW¼;	40.00

TOWNSHIP	RANGE	SECTION	SUBDIVISION	ACRES
5N	41E	28	S½SE¼;	80.00
			E½SE¼SW¼;	20.00
		27	Lot 1;	35.48
			Lot 2;	23.45
			Lot 3;	35.64
			Lot 4;	45.87
			Lot 5;	37.77
			NE¼SW¼;	40.00
			S½SW¼SW¼;	20.00
		34	Lot 1;	25.93
			Lot 2;	17.92
			Lot 3;	24.28
			N½NE¼;	80.00
			SW¼NE¼;	40.00
			S½NW¼;	80.00
		35	Lot 1;	51.04
			Lot 2;	37.57
			Lot 3;	25.46
			Lot 4;	46.45
			Lot 5;	22.26
			W½NW¼;	80.00
			SE¼NW¼;	40.00
			N½NE¼SE¼;	20.00
		26	Lot 1;	44.58
			Lot 2;	31.57
			Lot 3;	31.27
			NE¼SW¼;	40.00
			SE¼;	160.00



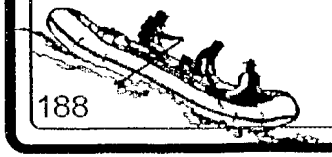
TOWNSHIP	RANGE	SECTION	SUBDIVISION	ACRES
5N	41E	36	Lot 1;	36.53
			Lot 2;	49.59
			Lot 3;	24.58
			Lot 4;	20.25
			Lot 5;	11.92
			Lot 6;	14.57
			Lot 7;	16.59
			Lot 8;	13.77
			Lot 9;	18.76
			SW¼SW¼;	40.00
			N½SE¼;	80.00
			NW¼NW¼;	40.00
			W½SE¼NW¼;	20.00
		25	S½SW¼SW¼;	20.00
4N	41E	1	Lot 1;	34.32
			Lot 2;	34.97
			Lot 3;	35.63
			Lot 4;	36.28
4N	42E	6	Lot 3;	44.12
			N½ of Lot 4;	26.14
5N	42E	3	S½ of Lot 2;	20.89
			Lot 3;	41.90
			Lot 4;	40.56
			Lot 5;	17.30
			Lot 6;	39.08
			Lot 7;	13.46
			Lot 8;	44.40
			Lot 9;	28.10
			Lot 10;	16.95
			Lot 11;	49.60
			S½SW¼NE¼;	20.00
			S½SE¼NW¼;	20.00
			E½SE¼SE¼;	20.00

TOWNSHIP	RANGE	SECTION	SUBDIVISION	ACRES
5N	42E	32	Lot 1;	12.63
			Lot 2;	24.40
			Lot 3;	15.80
			Lot 4;	41.62
			Lot 5;	50.87
			Lot 6;	19.37
			Lot 7;	33.53
			Lot 8;	24.90
			Lot 9;	38.97
			Lot 10;	35.78
			Lot 11;	39.37
			Lot 12;	17.63
			NW¼NW¼;	40.00
		29	Lot 1;	30.14
			Lot 2;	20.14
			Lot 3;	3.58
			Lot 4;	7.59
			W½SE¼;	80.00
			S½SW¼;	80.00
		2s	Lot 1;	34.43
			Lot 2;	18.01
			Lot 3;	17.59
			Lot 4;	26.82
			Lot 5;	46.31
			Lot 6;	27.85
			Lot 7;	19.55
			Lot 8;	37.63
			Lot 9;	32.59
			N½NE¼;	80.00
			NE¼NW¼;	40.00
			SW¼NW¼;	40.00
			SE¼SW¼;	40.00
			S½SE¼;	80.00



TOWNSHIP	RANGE	SECTION	SUBDIVISION	ACRES
5N	42E	33	N½NW¼;	80.00
		27	Lot 1;	12.70
			Lot 2;	13.77
			Lot 3;	37.19
			Lot 4;	8.15
			Lot 5;	19.73
			Lot 6;	20.14
			Lot 7;	19.50
			Lot 8;	38.09
			N½SW¼NE¼;	20.00
			NW¼SE¼NE¼;	10.00
			N½SE¼NW¼;	20.00
			SW¼SE¼NW¼;	10.00
			NW¼SW¼;	40.00
5N	42E	22	Lot 1;	38.69
			Lot 2;	13.90
			Lot 3;	15.44
			SW¼SE¼;	40.00
			S½SW¼;	80.00
		23	Lot 1;	27.81
			Lot 2;	26.24
			Lot 3;	43.90
			Lot 4;	40.52
			Lot 5;	29.25
			Lot 6;	26.72
			Lot 7;	42.00
			Lot 8;	42.76
		26	NW¼NW¼;	40.00
			N½NE¼NW¼;	20.00

TOWNSHIP	RANGE	SECTION	SUBDIVISION	ACRES
5N	42E	24	Lot 2;	50.92
			Lot 3;	49.70
			Lot 4;	12.37
			Lot 5;	24.02
			Lot 6;	45.70
			Lot 7;	15.85
			Lot 8;	19.99
			Lot 9;	25.27
			Lot 10;	44.15
			SE¼SW¼;	40.00
			SW¼SE¼;	40.00
			S½S½NW¼;	40.00
5N	43E	19	Lot 2;	40.37
			Lot 3;	40.48
			N½ of Lot 4;	20.30
			NE¼;	160.00
			E½NW¼;	80.00
			NE¼SW¼;	40.00
			E½SE¼SW¼;	20.00
			N½NW¼SE¼;	20.00
			NE¼SE¼;	40.00
			NW¼SE¼SW¼;	10.00
		18	SE¼NE¼SE¼;	10.00
			SE¼SE¼;	40.00
		20	N½N½NE¼;	40.00
			NW¼;	160.00
			N½SW¼;	80.00
5N	43E	17	E½;	320.00
			S½N½SW¼;	40.00
			S½SW¼;	80.00
		16	N½N½;	160.00
			N½SW¼NE¼;	20.00
			N½S½NW¼;	40.00

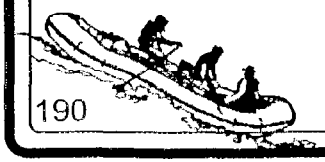


TOWNSHIP	RANGE	SECTION	SUBDIVISION	ACRES
5N	43E	8	SE¼NE¼NE¼;	10.00
			SE¼NE¼;	40.00
			NE¼SE¼;	40.00
		9	N½;	320.00
			N½SW¼;	80.00
			SE¼;	160.00
		4	Lot 1;	40.32
			Lot 2;	40.39
			Lot 3;	40.46
			SE¼NW¼;	40.00
			NE¼SW¼;	40.00
			S½SE¼;	80.00
			That part of the N½SE¼ and the SW¼NE¼ lying S & W of the Courtney Creek Road;	40.00
			That part of S½NE¼ lying N of Wallow County Road #737.	30.00
		3	Lot 3;	40.40
			Lot 4;	40.32
			N½SW¼NW¼;	20.00
6N	43E	34	NE¼NE¼;	40.00
			W½E½;	160.00
			W½SE¼NE¼;	20.00
			E½SW¼;	80.00
			SE¼SW¼SW¼;	10.00
			W½NE¼SE¼;	20.00
6N	43E	27	SE¼SE¼;	40.00
			S½SW¼SE¼;	20.00
		35	NW¼NE¼;	40.00
			N½NW¼;	80.00

TOWNSHIP	RANGE	SECTION	SUBDIVISION	ACRES
6N	43E	26	E½NE¼;	80.00
			S½NW¼NE¼;	20.00
			SW¼NE¼;	40.00
			E½SE¼NW¼;	20.00
			E½NE¼SW¼;	20.00
			S½SW¼SW¼;	20.00
			SE¼SW¼;	40.00
			W½SE¼;	80.00
			SW¼NE¼SW¼;	10.00
		25	W½NW¼;	80.00
		23	E½NE¼;	80.00
			NE¼NE¼SE¼;	10.00
			S½NE¼SE¼;	20.00
			SE¼SE¼;	40.00
6N	43E	24	NW¼NE¼;	40.00
			NW¼SW¼NE¼;	10.00
			W½;	320.00
		13	W½ of Lot 1	9.51
			Lot 2;	22.89
			Lot 3;	26.63
			Lot 6;	40.00
			Lot 7;	40.00
			W½ of Lot 8;	20.00

GRANDE RONDE RIVER BOUNDARY (Washington Segment)

The Washington segment of the Grande Ronde River administrative boundary adopted by the BLM from Baker Resource Management plan direction is ¼ mile on public land mean high water mark each side of river and 200 feet on private land mean high water mark each side of river and is identical with the Asotin County Shoreline Plan.



APPENDIX B - RECREATION OPPORTUNITY SPECTRUM

ROS EXPERIENCE CHARACTERIZATION (PHYSICAL ATTRIBUTES)

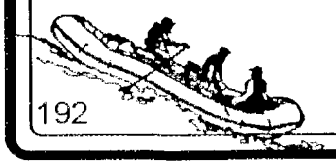
Primitive River	Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized River	Semi-Primitive Motorized River	Roaded Natural River	Rural River	Urban River
-Unmodified landscape-natural environment no evidence of human development. -No developed access sites along the river. -No roads. -No impoundments, diversions, or channel modifications. -Largely undisturbed natural environments.	-Little evidence of human development. -Very few trailed access sites developed along the river. -Primitive roads to access points on edge of corridor. -No impoundments, diversions, or channel modifications.	-Largely undisturbed natural environment. -Little evidence of human development. -Very few access sites developed along the river. -Roads to access points only-do not parallel river. -No impoundments, diversions or channel modifications.	-Alteration to the landscape are subtle. Natural characteristics remain dominant. -Moderate evidence of human development. -Developed access sites provided. -Roads parallel some portions of the river. -Few impoundments, diversions or channel modifications. There may be small nodes of rural and urban development (typically 1/4-mile or less in length).	-Substantially modified landscape having both manmade and natural features. -Evidence of human development prevalent. -Facilities developed to manage/aid greater numbers of visitors. -Specific sites developed to provide health/ sanitation facilities and recreation convenience. -Easy access to river by roads - some parallel river, bridges, and powerlines evident.	-Impoundments, diversions or channel modifications occur. -Landscape may be dominated by roads, towns, small cities or by recreation facilities. Highly developed for more intensive and specialized recreation activities. -Specific sites are developed to provide health and sanitation facilities as well as recreation convenience. -Roads and road access are frequent. -Impoundments, diversions or channel modifications are common.

ROS EXPERIENCE CHARACTERIZATION (SOCIAL ATTRIBUTES)

Primitive River	Semi-Primitive Non-motorized River	Semi-Primitive Motorized River	Roaded Natural River	Rural River	Urban River
-Highest expectations of experiencing isolation from the sights and sounds of humans. -No expected contact with other individuals. -None to little evidence of other users. -Self-reliance through application of outdoor skills in an environment that offers a high degree of challenge and risk. -Strong sense of remoteness.	-Fairly high expectations of solitude and experiencing isolation from the sights and sounds of others. -Few but occasional contacts with other users at rapids and access points. -Little but some evidence of other users. -Self-reliance through application of outdoor skills in an environment that offers a moderate degree of challenge and risk. -Sense of remoteness.	-Moderate expectation of solitude and some expectation of experiencing isolation from sights and sounds of others. -Few but occasional contacts with other users at rapids and access points. -Little but some evidence of other users. -Self-reliance through application of outdoor skills in an environment that offers a degree of challenge and risk. -Sense of remoteness.	-Moderate evidence of the sights and sounds of others. -Moderate use occurs contact with others is expected and occasionally continual, some chance for isolation. -Opportunities for challenge in a natural environment but less expectation of risk.	-Evidence of sights and sounds of humans common from other river users and from people off river. -Contact with others expected including frequent interface between river users and shore users.	-High concentration of users and large number of people are within the area and nearby with evidence of other users being dominant. Frequent interface between river users and shore users. -Challenge and risk are less important.

ROS EXPERIENCE CHARACTERIZATION (MANAGERIAL ATTRIBUTES)

Primitive River	Semi-Primitive Non-motorized River	Semi-Primitive Motorized River	Roaded Natural River	Rural River	Urban River
-No on-site visitor management controls or regulations apparent. -No facility development for user comfort. -Traditional non-motorized craft allowed motorized use prohibited. -Regulations for human waste disposal. -Low impact camping practices required. -Very small part size (6-120 and few boats per group. -On outfitter trips visitors participate in navigation of the river and perceive a high degree of challenge and risk.	-Only a few but subtle on-site visitor management controls or regulations are apparent. -Minimal facility development allowed. See ROS Primer and Field Guide. -Traditional non-motorized craft allowed motorized use prohibited. -Regulations for human waste disposal and camping practices required. -Small party size (8-20) and limited boats per group. -Outfitter and guides are often used but customers experience a high to moderate degree of challenge and risk.	-Only a few but subtle on-site visitor management controls or regulations are apparent. -Minimal facility development allowed. See ROS Primer and field Guide. -Traditional non-motorized and motorized water craft allowed. -Regulations for human waste disposal and camping practices required. -Small to moderate party size and limited boats per group. -Outfitter and guides are often used but customers experience a moderate degree of challenge and risk.	-A few on-site visitor management controls or regulations may be expected. -Rustic facilities, developed for protection of the resource and to accommodate visitor use. See ROS Primer and Field Guide. -Non-motorized and motorized water craft allowed. -Agriculture and forestry practices occasionally evident but subordinate. -Some development of private land noticeable. -Some auto and off-road vehicle use can be seen from river. -Contacts with management personnel are more frequent.	-Visitor management controls are viable and expected. -Some facility development for protection of the resource and to accommodate visitor use. See ROS Primer and Field Guide. -Motorized and non-motorized use allowed. -Agriculture -Agriculture forestry practices occasionally evident and may dominate. -Development of private land more prevalent. -Regular auto and off-road vehicle use can be seen from river. -Land based recreation facility development more prevalent. -Contact with management and personnel are more frequent.	-Numerous visitor management controls and regulations are in effect. -Intensive facility development and land use may dominate landscape. -Motorized and non-motorized use of all types allowed. -Regular highway vehicle use is allowed and is a dominant feature of the landscape. -Contact with management personnel and law enforcement officers is frequent.



APPENDIX C - PLANNING PARTICIPANTS

- Land Managers

James E. May, Bureau of Land Management - Vale District
Bob Richmond, Forest Service - Wallowa/Whitman National Forest
Jeff Blackwood, Forest Service - Umatilla National Forest
Jim Lauman, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
Bruce Smith, Washington Department of Wildlife
Owen Lucus, Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation
Pat Combes, Wallowa County Oregon
Lawrence "Doc" Savage, Union County Oregon
Mark Krammer, Asotin County Washington

- Citizens Ad Hoc Team Members (Oregon - Wallowa River)

Woody Fine, Forest Service
Steve Davis, Forest Service
Robin Rose, Forest Service
Dorothy Mason, Bureau of Land Management
Cindy Vergari, Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation
Gary Miniszewski, Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation
Jacque Greenleaf, Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation
Willie Knoll, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
Si Whitman, Nez Perce, Lapwai Indian Reservation
Don Bryson, Nez Perce, Lapwai Indian Reservation
Louie Dick, Confederated Tribes Umatilla Indian Reservation
Rick George, Confederated Tribes Umatilla Indian Reservation
Trish Quaempts, Confederated Tribes Umatilla Indian Reservation
Larry Cribbs, Union County Oregon
Less Carlson, Wallowa County Oregon
Pat Wortman, Wallowa County Oregon
Paul Morehead, Organized Labor
Carmen Dawson, Livestock Producer
George Altenburg, Union Pacific Railroad
Duncan Lagoe, Environmental Interests
Bob Weinberger, Private Forest Lands
Melva Horn, Community of Minam, Oregon
Steve Stanhope, Commercial Recreation
Al Ainsworth, Non Commercial Recreation

- Citizens Ad Hoc Team Members (Oregon - Grande Ronde River)

Gerry Meyer, Bureau of Land Management
Dorothy Mason, Bureau of Land Management
Steve Bush, Forest Service
Marty Gardner, Forest Service
Cindy Vergari, Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation
Jacque Greenleaf, Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation
Gary Miniszewski, Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation
Larry Cribbs, Union County Oregon
Pat Combes, Wallowa County Oregon
Larry Marks, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
Wayne Shuyler, Oregon State Marine Board
Louie Dick, Confederated Tribes Umatilla Indian Reservation
Rick George, Confederated Tribes Umatilla Indian Reservation
Trish Quaempts, Confederated Tribe Umatilla Indian Reservation
Don Bryson, Nez Perce, Lapwai Indian Reservation
Mike Gibbs, Community of Troy, Oregon
Bob Weinberger, Private Forest Lands

Lynn George, Oregon Rivers Council
John Ecklund, Non Commercial Recreation
Jim Coxen, Non Commercial Recreation
Marsh Tildon, Commercial Recreation
Paul Morehead, Organized Labor
Bob Morse, Livestock Producer
Doug Mallory, Wenaha River Representative

- Citizens Ad Hoc Team Members (Washington - Grande Ronde River)

Gerry Meyer, Bureau of Land Management
Steve Bush, Forest Service
Gary Long, Washington Department of State Parks
Roger Holland, Washington Department of Wildlife
Don Brigham, Asotin County, Washington
Trish Quaempts, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
Don Bryson, Nez Perce, Lapwai Indian Reservation
Fred Dole, Environmental Representative
Scott Druley, Non Commercial Recreation
Farrel Vail, Commercial Recreation
Stue Raspone, Organized Labor
Doug Paynter, Utilities
Ivan Botts, Livestock Producer
Mike Odom, Private Land Representative
Bruce Oakes, Community of Heller Bar, Washington

- Management Participation

Jack Albright, Bureau of Land Management - Baker Resource Area
Tom Reilly, Forest Service - Walla Ranger District
Jim Golden, Forest Service - Wallowa Valley Ranger District
Larry Marks, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
Owen Lucus, Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation
Roger Holland, Washington Department of Wildlife

-Staff Participation

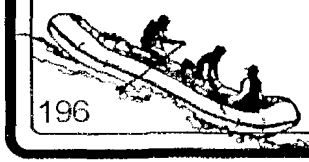
Gerry Meyer, Planning Team Leader, Bureau of Land Management
Kevin McCoy, River Manager, Bureau of Land Management
Dorothy Mason, Staff Supervisor, Bureau Of Land Management
Rich Conrad, Recreation Planner, Bureau of Land Management
Dawn Coles, Staff Assistant, Bureau of Land Management
Donna Zurfluh, Staff Assistant, Bureau of Land Management
Odos Lowery, Forester, Bureau of Land Management
John Denney, Watershed Specialist, Bureau of Land Management
Matt Kniesel, Wildlife Biologist, Bureau of Land Management
Ralph Kuhns, Geologist, Bureau of Land Management
Jim Ledger, Access Specialist, Bureau of Land Management
Mary Oman, Archeologist, Bureau of Land Management
Larry Taylor, Range Conservationist, Bureau of Land Management
Mike Woods, Range Conservationist, Bureau of Land Management
Gene McLaughlin, Range Conservationist, Bureau of Land Management
Chris Shaver, Support Services Specialist, Bureau of Land Management
Marty Stannard, River Ranger, Bureau of Land Management
Dr. Randy Alanko, Botanist, Volunteer, Bureau of Land Management
Woody Fine, River Planner, Forest Service
Steve Bush, River Planner, Forest Service
Robin Rose, River Planner, Forest Service
Susan Skalski, River Planner, Forest Service
Marty Gardner, River Planner, Forest Service

- Public Participation

The process leading to the publication of this management plan has included numerous opportunities for public participation. The following documents, review periods, public scoping meetings, Ad Hoc Team meetings, and draft river plans developed over the last several years, included extensive public input, directed the development of this plan.

-Union and Wallowa County Land Use Plans
-Asotin County Shoreline Program Draft Plan.
-Baker Resource Management Plan, Bureau of Land Management

-Umatilla Forest Plan, Forest Service
-Wallowa/Whitman Forest Plan, Forest Service
-Oregon State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.
-Congressional hearings prior to Public Law 100-557, establishing the Grande Ronde River as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.
-Designation of the Wallowa/Grande Ronde Rivers as a component of the Oregon State Scenic Waterway system.
-Sixteen public scoping meetings were held in 1989 to gain public input and direction for the development of this plan.
-Public comments received on the draft river plan from the comment period: May 1, 1992 through May 31, 1992.



APPENDIX D - BIBLIOGRAPHY

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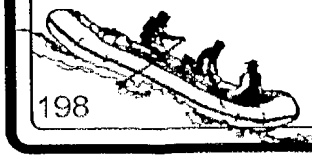

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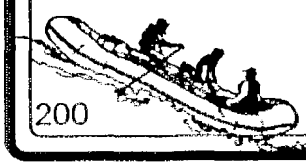
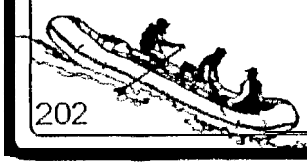


APPENDIX E - LAWS AND REGULATIONS

1. Wild and Scenic Rivers Act 90-542, October 1968 as amended by Public Law 100-557, October 1988
2. Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA), Sec. 603 Public Law 94-579, October 1976.
3. National Forest Management Act (NFMA) 1976.
4. Endangered Species Act, 1973, as amended.
5. Pacific Northwest Electric Power Planning and Conservation Act, Public Law 96-501.
6. Archaeological Resources Protection Act, 1979, as amended.
7. Historic Preservation Act, 1966.
8. Clean Water Act, Public Law 92-500.
9. The Federal Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, 1958.
10. The National Environmental Protection Act, 1969.
11. Oregon State Scenic Waterways Act, ORS 390.805 to 390.925.
12. Oregon Administrative Rules, Chapter 736. Div. 40 - State Department of Parks and Recreation.



APPENDIX F - PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following is a summary of actions relating to public comments received during public scoping meetings prior to the development of the draft management plan and environmental assessment.

Sixteen public scoping meetings were held from September 1989 through Decemer, 1989, in Baker City, Troy, Enterprise, LaGrande, Richland, Ukiah, Pendleton and Imnaha, Oregon and also in Clarkston, Washington. Over 593 comments were received during these meetings. These comments provide the basis for the 23 issue categories identified in the three planning sections within the corridor. Detailed copies, by meeting, are available for review at the BLM's Baker Resource Area office.

Pages 204 through 222 are public comments received on the draft management plan and environmental assessment and were incorporated into this final EA and Plan were applicable.

Rec'd 8/24/92

OREGON
NATURAL
RESOURCES
COUNCIL

WESTERN REGIONAL OFFICE
[illegible]

August 25, 1992

RECEIVED
AUG 28 1992
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
BAKER CITY OR

Gerald Meyer
Baker Resource Area
Vale District BLM
PO Box 987
Baker City, OR 97814

Subject: **Comments on Draft Management** Plan fur the Grande **Ronde** Wild **&** Scenic River

Dear Mr. Meyer:

Please accept the following comments on the **Draft** Management Plan for the **Grande** Ronde Wild **&** Scenic River.

1. The Plan **EA** fails to adequately describe the affected **environment.** Page 45 of the **EA** gives the impression that **the** only grating that is occurring within **the** corridor is on private land, hut **the** preferred **alternatives** makes a considerable effort to holster and support **grazing** as a favored activity on public lands. Please explain the **grazing** situation much more clearly in the **final** EA. What are the names of the allotments that are **involved** Do those allotments have allotment management **plans?** Who authorizes **the** grazing: BLM or USFS? How may **AUMs** are permitted? What type of animals are **permitted?** What is the **permitted** use vs. the actual use? What is the condition of the **riparian areas** along the various segments of the river corridor? Is the **grazing** use light. moderate or severe? What are the permitted forage **utilization levels?**

2. The Plan EA fails to adequately describe specifically how **grazing will** impact the **outstandingly remarkable** values of the river corridor. The **EA** should indicate clearly how **grazing** conflicts with scenic values, recreational values, and fisheries and **wildlife** values.

2a. **Cool** stream temperatures ***are critical to*** **salmonid** survival. **The** Plan EA says that the **river** water is not **particularly** cool, clear. or clean. and that **DEQ** standards **for temperature** are **sometimes** violated. Removal of riparian **vegetation is** the most **likely cause** of such violations. so how will the outstandingly remarkable fisheries resource **be** protected in the **face** of continued **grazing?**

2b. **How does** cattle **grazing** impact the **wildlife** species that inhabit the **river** corridor? Do the many **bird species listed** in the EA **that** use the river corridor depend upon healthy riparian **vegetation for** any part of their **lifecycle?** Do the big game compete with **the** domestic cattle and **sheep for forage** or **territory?**

2c. What are the specific interactions that can hc expected as recreational use of the river corridor increases? Do **recreational** boaters on **wilderness** float trips enjoy camping in **riparian** areas devastated by cattle? Do recreationists prefer to view more cattle or **more** wildlife? Do cattle disturb and displace wildlife from the river corridor?

3. The **EA** should discuss the impact of grazing on rare and sensitive plants.

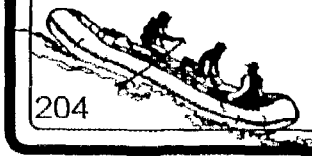
4. The **EA** should elaborate on the water quality of the river and how it affects the outstandingly remarkable values. Page 31 of the EA indicates some causes of water **quality** problems. including: animal waste. animal traffic, elimination of shading cover, etc... **The EA** should explain haw the management plan protects the **outstandingly** remarkable values in spite of these water quality impacts.

5. The preferred alternatives has a consistent pro-extraction **bias.** The Management **Plan** must provide for the protection of the outstandingly remarkable values as **required** by the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, 16 USC **§ 1274(d)(** 1). The Plan is not intended to provide for the protection of the political and private economic interests of the resource **extraction industries.** The plan appears **cast** in stone the status quo. thereby subverting **the** very purpose for which the plan was required, to **protect** the **outstandingly** remarkable values of the Grande **Ronde** River corridor.

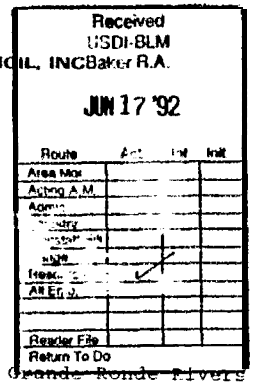
Please **address** these comments in the **final** EA.

Sincerely,

Doug **Heiken**
for Oregon Natural Resources Council



GRANDE RONDE RESOURCE COUNCIL, INC



June 12, 1992

Jack Albright
Baker Resource Area
Bureau of Land Management
P.O. Box 987
Baker City, OR 97814

Dear Mr. Albright,

After careful review of the Wallowa and Grande Ronde Rivers Draft Management Plan and Environmental Assessment, the Grande Ronde Resource Council would like to submit the following comments for consideration in the development of the final Plan.

First, let us preface our comments by acknowledging that this Plan involved many highly controversial issues affecting many different players. It seems that the Bureau made every effort to minimize controversy and create a Plan that those opposed to the Wild and Scenic designation could live with. Although this is a commendable goal, the fact is the river was designated, and somewhere along the way, the purpose and intent of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act seems to have been lost. Upon first reading of the Plan, the casual observer would not guess that the management directives discussed were intended for a protected river! Therein lies the major complaint that the Grande Ronde Resource Council has with the Draft. We have to wonder if the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and other existing statutes were consulted by the authors during the process, as there seem to be many inconsistencies with the Act. Upon development of our comments, the Grande Ronde Resource Council kept in focus the requirements that "Each component of the national wild and scenic rivers system shall be administered in such a manner as to protect and enhance the values which caused it to be included in said system ....", and "In such administration primary emphasis shall be given to protecting its esthetic, scenic, historic, archeologic, and scientific features." (Sec. 10a, Wild and Scenic Rivers Act) As determined by the Resource Assessment for the Grande Ronde, the outstandingly remarkable values to be protected are; Scenic, Recreation, Fisheries, Wildlife and probably Cultural.

A quick note about organization of the Plan. We understand that time was a factor, but the Plan seems disjointed and poorly organized. The Grande Ronde Resource Council would like to see the following elements in the final plan; 1) an evaluation of current conditions or a methodology for determining these if unknown; 2) proposed management objectives; 3) a description of the impacts of management objectives on the current conditions; and 4) a description of the desired future condition of the resource. We believe this is not only crucial to the appropriateness of the final plan, but that it would also aid the agencies in its implementation further down the road.

Post Office Box 2968, La Grande, Oregon 97850

With these remarks in mind, the Grande Ronde Resource Council will now submit comments on specific elements of the Draft Plan. For each item, we will reference the section commented on by p(page), c(column), and P(paragraph). A partial paragraph at the top of a column will be counted as a paragraph. On occasion, a suggested rewording will include some words in upper case letters. This is only for the purpose of emphasis, we do not suggest this upper case form in the final draft.

AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT:

p45, c1, P4:
"Mere absence of grazing can be detrimental to some ranges..." and "Properly managed grazing systems can be used to protect and enhance some of the ORV's".

The Grande Ronde Resource Council is unclear which ORV's could be protected by grazing practices. At any rate, these arguments are one-sided in their scope. It must also be stated that the ABSENCE of grazing may be a possible way to protect or enhance some of the ORV's such as riparian potential for fish.

p47, c1, P2:
"Harvest may only occur for salvage or to accomplish some non-timber goal...".

It should be stated clearly here that in order for salvage to occur, it must be PROVEN to benefit (i.e., protect or enhance) the ORV's.

WALLOWA RIVER:

It is the position of The Grande Ronde Resource Council that the Wallowa River from Minam to Rondowa possesses the qualities of a Wild and Scenic River, meets and exceed the statutory requirements, and should be added to the System.

p52, c1, P1:
"Protect and enhance those values on the Wallowa River that are being considered under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act with emphasis on private land owner interests".

If the river is to be added to the system, emphasis cannot be on private land owner interests and activities. In order to be consistent with the Act, PRIMARY management emphasis must be on the resource, specifically, the Outstandingly Remarkable Values on both public and private lands.

Forestry:

p52, c1, P1:
"Optimize wood fiber outputs on all available moderate or highly capable land."

Inconsistent with the Act. The Plan must disclose precisely how such action will protect or enhance ORV's.

p52. cl, P1"
"Road improvement and construction will be required including some presently unroaded areas."

More information must be disclosed in the Plan, for example, purpose of the roads, public or private lands. etc. Regardless new roading is basically inconsistent with protection or enhancement of ORV's. Agencies should not be REQUIRED to construct or Improve roads. Any new roading would have to pass the Does-this-project-protect-or-enhance-ORV's test.

Social and Economic Considerations:

p52, c2, P2:
"Maintain existing and prescribed levels of resource utilizations in the agricultural and forest industries."

ONLY if they are proven Co protect or enhance ORV's. Blanket endorsement of current practices is explicitly contrary to the purposes of the Act.

Recreation:

p53, cl, P1:
"Wallowa River open Co both motorized and non-motorized watercraft..."

Motorized craft may be detrimental to sensitive species, particularly, the Bald Eagle, a Threatened Species protected by the Endangered Species Act. Monitoring studies should be conducted prior to allowing motorized useage and that useage allowed if and only if no impacts to Eagles are found. If useage is to be allowed, the Grande Ronde subcommittee's findings should apply to the Wallowa section also (interim limitations on Launches. traps, seasonal use. size. etc.). The specifics need to be reproduced here in the Plan.

p53. c1. P1:
"Mandatory use of fire pans and pack out of human waste:

Commendable management direction. Concentrated recreational useage in a river corridor requires such measures to insure protection of ORV's.

Livestock:

p54, cl, P1:
"Continue livestock grazing on public land within the canyon under authorized permits."

Without a finding that such action is consistent with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. this contradicts the Act. Further , the BLM's requirement to analyze and revise Allotment Management Plans (AMP's) as required by the Endangered Species Act must be referenced.

The BLM should consider retiring permits if permitee is not currently utilizing permit. and certainly should issue no new Permits. At issue here is. among other things, water quality, specifically protected by the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

p54, cl, P1:
"Initiate trespass actions on unauthorized use of corridor by livestock". and "Encourage cooperative projects that divert livestock from the riparian zone."

Both commendable directions.

Hydropower (Water Resources):

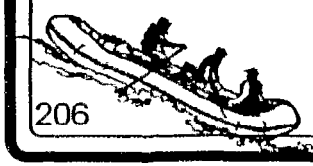
p54, cl, P3:
"Continue utilization of river for watering domestic livestock."

Only AUTHORIZED current Uses. This blanket statement implies any useage present now is acceptable in the future. Again, water quality is at issue.

Biodivrrsity:

p54, c2, P3:
"Management actions within the corridor will maintain or enhance flora. fauna, and physical elements most similar to the present baseline condition."

This statement implies present condition is the desired condition. As evidenced by the current Federal Agency findings that forest health is dismal. the baseline condition is implicitly unhealthy. Present baseline conditions may not even be sufficient to protect the resource. Congress has directed managers to protect AND ENHANCE RV"s.



GRANDE RONDE RIVER:

p70, c1, P2:
"Protect and Enhance Outstanding Resource Values (ORV's) with emphasis on private landowner interest."

ORV as relates to the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act is an Outstandingly Remarkable Value, not an Outstanding Resource Value. And again, primary emphasis can not be on private landowner interests. This terminology may have been useful as a tool in arriving at the different alternatives, but does not belong in the final draft.

Land:

p70, c1, P3:
"Livestock grazing of the corridor will be allowed on public land though permit licensing by the appropriate agency."

This blanket allowance is inconsistent with the directive to protect and enhance ORV's. Terminology in the Wallowa section was better to get this idea across. As in the Wallowa section, perhaps this section should read, "Continue livestock grazing on public land within the canyon under authorized permits". "And", it should be added, "continued grazing will only be allowed after AMP revision to better protect and enhance habitat necessary for ESA listed chinook salmon." Again, the agency must revise AMP's, perhaps retiring some permits where possible, and issuing no new permits. The items from the Wallowa section referring to section 15 permit holders and trespass actions on unathorized use, as well as encouraging cooperative projects that divert livestock from the riparian zone belong in the Grande Ronde section as well. The Grande Ronde Resource Council would like to see this language incorporated into the final draft.

p70, c2, P1:
"Develop control systems for weeds, insects, and disease to include herbicides, pesticides, fire, plowing, seeding, and biological controls."

Insects and diseases are inherent components of the ecosystem. Do some native plants fall under the category of "weeds"?. This item as written implies that all of the above control systems be used. The Grande Ronde Resource Council recommends fire, plowing, seeding and biological controls be considered management tools with herbicides and pesticides listed as de-emphasized tools generally not consistent with Wild and Scenic Act objectives. ANY such management action, if used at all, would have to be proven to be necessary to acheive the purposes of the Act. [illegible] Management Plan should clearly state [illegible]

p70, c2, P1:
"Mineral extraction is allowed within the recreation classification..".

Again, inconsistent with protection and enhancement of ORV's. As far as we know, there is no established mineral extraction useage in the corridor. We see no reason to open the door for possible degradation of values caused by any future useage.

p71, c1, P1:
"Salvage of dead and dying timber may be used as a means of maintaining or enhancing ORV's."

ORV's must be PROTECTED or enhanced, not merely MAINTAINED or enhanced. There is a difference and this should be changed to read, "Salvage of dead and dying timber may be used ONLY as a means of PROTECTING or enhancing ORV's.

p71, c1, P1:
"Utilize timber harvest as a tool to restore forest health and improve wildlife habitat whenever it is the most effective method."

And, it should be added, ONLY if it is proven to be the MOST EFFECTIVE METHOD to protect and enhance ORV's. The Blue Moutnains Forest Health Report has indicated that timber harvest and fire exclusion are the root causes of current forest health problems. The agencies should be very cautious about future harvest activities.

Water:

p71, c2, P1:
"Livestock watering and irrigation uses of the river will continue."

It should be added that only "CURRENTLY AUTHORIZED Livestock watering and irrigation uses of the river will continue." The Plan should state that irrigation use will be closely monitored to insure compliance with water right rate and duty.

Biological:

p72, c1, P1:
"Implement limitation on recreation use when monitoring studies determine that use exceeds acceptable biological impacts on wintering wildlife species and nesting activities of bald eagles within the corridor."

This section is good, but should be expanded to include "impacts ON wintering wildlife, AND OTHER SENSITIVE SPECIES, as well as nesting activities of bald eagles within the corridor, and other ORV's."

Social:

p73, c1, P1:
"Maintain existing campsites . . .in their current undeveloped condition" and
p73, c2, P1: "'Develop regulations and facilities to require mandatory packout of human waste and garbage".

Excellent. Both directives are critical if the Wild nature of the Grande Ronde corridor is to be maintained. Development including toilets, picnic tables, etc., breed litter and other undesirable impacts of visitors. A mandatory firepan statement should be added here(it is in the Wallowa Section). It should also be clarified that no motors (aside from watercraft) can be used in the corridor. This would, among other things, preclude chainsaws that visitors have used in the past to down living brush for campfires, impacting riparian habitat. We understand this falls under current Forest Service rules, but should be spelled out here also.

p73, Cl. P1:
"In the 1.5 mile recreation segment motorized watercraft use would be allowed to continue..."

Motorized craft may be detrimental to sensitive species, particularly, the Bald Eagle, a Threatened Species protected by the Endangered Species Act. Monitoring studies should be conducted PRIOR to allowing motorized useage and that useage allowed if and only if no impacts to Eagles are found. This study and its time frame should be spelled out in the Plan (i.e., begin Spring 1943 and end Fall 1994).

Administrative:

p74, c2, P1:
"Develop studies to determine if acquisition of private lands is necessary to meet the protection and/or enhancement criteria of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Agencies will not actively pursue acquisition.:

This seems like an unnecessary study. Study funds and energies are more sorely needed to assess and monitor current conditions and impacts to resources. The Grande Ronde Resource Council understands this is a politically volatile topic. Ever[illegible] believe the Act is [illegible]

superior in scope and practicality, just as politically palatable, and more in keeping with the intent of the Act. That wording, reproduced here, reads, "Agencies will not actively pursue land acquisitions. Private party initiated easement/acquisition proposals will be processed on 8 priority basis. Initiate a private land acquisition program from WILLING SELLERS only. NO CONDEMNATION of private land will occur."'

p75, Cl, P1:
"Continue utilization of corridor to water domestic livestock."

Only currently AUTHORIZED utilization should be allowed to continue. Also, all AMP's must be revised within a time frame specified in the Plan (i.e., completed by 1994).

The many references in our comments regarding the protection or enhancement of ORV's may seems redundant, but It is the belief of the Grande Ronde Resource Council that the Federal Agency needs to regain sight of the directive to "prepare a comprehensive management plan for such river segments to provide for the protection of the river values." (Sec. 3d, Wild and Scenic Rivers Act)

We will not submit detailed comments on The Impacts of Alternatives sections except to point out that the impacts to the ORV's should be the focus here, and not the impacts to the consumptive practices such as forestry and range. The Grande Ronde Resource Council believes these sections need to be thoroughly reworked accordingly.

One final note, the State of Oregon has directed Federal Agencies to quantify and adjudicate a water right for Wild and Scenic Rivers in the quantity necessary to accomplish the purposes of the Act. It is the understanding of the Grande Ronde Resource Council that some reference of the intention of BLM/USFS in regard to this Federal Reserve Water Right should be included in the Draft Plan. This should include a description of the process and a time frame.

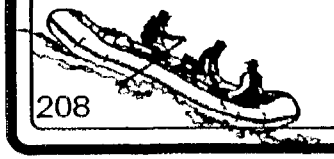
Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Wallowa and Grande Ronde River[illegible] Management Plan and Environmental Assessment. We lookforward to commenting on a much-improved final Plan.

Sincerely,

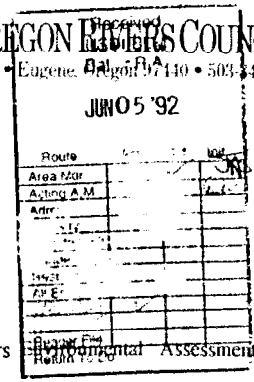
Roberta Bates, Director

Roberta Bates
Grande Ronde Resource Council, Inc.
P. O. Box 2968
La Grande, OR 97850

[illegible] Oregon Rivers Council, P.O. Box 309, Eugene, OR [illegible]



THE OREGON RIVERS COUNCIL
P.O. Box 309 • Eugene, Oregon 97440 • 503-345-0119



June 3, 1992

Jack D. Albright, Manager
Baker Resource Area
Bureau of Land Management
PO 987
Baker City, OH 97814

Re: Wallowa and Grande Ronde Rivers Environmental Assessment and Draft Management Plan

Dear Mr. Albright:

On behalf of the Oregon Rivers Council I would like to thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Wallowa and Grande Ronde Rivers Environmental Assessment and Draft Management Plan. I also wish to acknowledge the assistance of your staff in clarifying the procedures surrounding the Draft.

The Oregon Rivers Council (ORC) submits the following comments on the Wallowa and Grande Ronde Rivers Environmental Assessment and Draft Management Plan (Plan).

As described in more detail below, ORC believes that the Plan, if implemented as written, will not conform to the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (Act) and its implementing regulations for the following reasons:

(A) The Plan substitutes a lower standard for management (maintain and enhance) than that required by the Act (protect and enhance).

(B) The Plan has shifted the management emphasis from the outstandingly remarkable values (ORV's) to other river related issues and resources.

(C) The Plan does not sufficiently address the effects activities will have on the ORV's.

(D) The Plan does not provide a methodology for measuring changes in the outstandingly remarkable values.

(A) The Plan substitutes a lower standard for management (maintain and enhance) than that required by the Act (protect and enhance).

The Wild And Scenic Rivers Act, Section 10(a), requires "protection and enhancement" of the outstandingly remarkable values. The National Wild and Scenic Rivers System Revised Guidelines for Eligibility, Classification and Management of River Areas, Federal Register, Vol. 47 No. 173 Section III, requires that management strategies "always be designed to protect and enhance the values of the river areas."

However, throughout the Plan the management objective "maintain and enhance" is substituted for "protect and enhance." Specifically, the "Management Objectives and Constraints" section on page 18 states that for the Wallowa River segment "the management objective is to maintain and enhance current quality..."and for the Grande Ronde segment "maintain and/or enhance..." Paragraph 2, page 50, states "management activities in riparian areas will be designed to maintain or improve riparian values."

In paragraph 3 of page 50, the Plan states that "major construction efforts will be scheduled to avoid or minimize disturbance to wildlife." Wildlife is one of the ORV's identified in the Resource Assessment and all management activities must be planned to protect and enhance the value. "Minimizing" the degradation of an ORV does not conform with the Act.

Congress has directed the agency to **protect and enhance** values and the Bureau of Land Management must not substitute a different objective. The Plan should say "protect and enhance" in all places where it currently says "maintain and enhance." More importantly, all management activities must be designed to protect and enhance the ORV's.

This distinction is important. The protection standard is the manager's first goal, and any proposed activity must conform to full scale protection. The language from the Federal Register is that "this section [10(a) of the Act] is interpreted as stating a non-degradation and enhancement policy, regardless of classification" (p. 39458).

It is therefore inconsistent with the goal of non-degradation to conclude, as the draft does (p. 2), that concerning scenery "...management activities may not attract the attention of the casual observer."

The correct standard for scenery is that "management activities shall protect (or shall not degrade) the scenic qualities." Similarly, the section on Fisheries (p.4) should conclude that "management activities (shall not degrade) shall protect habitat for wild stocks and/or federal or state listed threatened, endangered and sensitive species."

We do wish to commend the Baker Resource Area staff on the sections of the Plan that do uphold the standards of the Act. For example, on page 70 the Plan states "mineral

extraction on public land will require a plan of operation, demonstrating protection of the Wild and Scenic values."

Similarly, the first paragraph of the "biological section" (p. 71) states: "Monitor and assess fish and wildlife hahitat and watershed degradation from activities located inside or outside the corridor." This worthy goal could be strengthened further with reference to section 12(a) of the Act which says that management policies on adjacent federal lands shall be adjusted where necessary to achieve the purposes of the Act.

(B) The Plan has shifted the management emphasis from the outstandingly remarkable values to other river related issues sod resources.

Section 10(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act states: "In such administration (of wild and scenic rivers) primary emphasis will be given to protecting its esthetic, scenic, historic, archeologic, and scientific features." To conform with the Act, the Plan must protect and enhance the outstandingly remarkable values above all **other issues.**

However, in the Plan emphasis is shifted from the ORV's (scenic, recreational, fisheries, and wildlife) to other issues, including the private land owner interests. The Preferred Alternative for all three river segments (Alternative A for the Wallowa Segment. Alternative B for the Grande Ronde Segment, and Alternative B for the Grande Ronde Washington Segment) will "protect and enhance nutstandmg resource values with emphasis on private landowner interest." This is in violation of the Act and all implementing regulations. Emphasis must be placed on protecting and enhancing the ORV's.

Another example is found under the Forestry section of Alternative A for the Wallowa River segment (page 52), which states "optimize wood fiber outputs." This is inconsistent with the express purposes of the Act.

Pages 70-71 contain several activities known to be injurious to protected values (e.g. "grazing will be allowed." "develop control systems for weeds"). Activities such as this must hc eliminated from the Plan.
The Alternatives (especially the Preferred Alternatives) must be written so that they emphasize the ORV's and conform to the Art.

(C) The Plan does not sufficiently address the effects activities will have on the ORV's.

Throughout the "Issues" section, the Plan addresses the effects of management activities on various elements (e.g., forestry, livestock, and transportation). However, the plan does not reflect any concern about the effects of these elements on the ORV's

Paragraph I. page 20 state's: "this section (Issues) identifies critical issues to be considered in the alternatives" and that "these issues arc carried foreword throughout this document for alternative development and analysis." However, the ORV's are omitted from the "critical issues" that are the foundation of the Plan.

For example, the Wallowa Segment Issue 7 (Livestock) states that "river management could have an impact on livestock management aptions." However. it does not address the impacts livestock management options may have on the ORV's.

The Grande Ronde, Washington Segment Issue 1 (Private Land) states that "river management will consider the social, economic and cultural implications on local residents and surrounding communities." However, river management must first consider the Implications on the ORV's.

The Issues section must be rewritten so that it fully analyzes the impacts of the identified issues on the ORV's.

(D) The Plan does not provide a methodology for measuring changes in the outstandingly remarkable values.

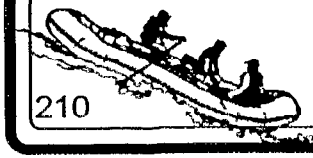
The National Wild and Scenic Rivers System Revised Guidelines for Eligibility. Classification and Management of River Areas, Federal Register, Vol. 47 No. 173, Section III. requires that "studies...be made during preparation of the management plan and periodically thereafter to determine the quantity and mixture of recreation and other public use which can be permitted without adverse impact on the resource values."

The Wild and Scenic Management Plan Outline as recommended by the USDI, Bureau of land Management/USDA, Forest Service/State of Oregon, includes Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC) as a methodology for determining the mix of activities that may be implemented without degradmg the ORV's. Part IV of the outline, Management Goals and Objectives, includes LAC in defining objectives for each segment. Part V, Management Actions, includes LAC in identifying and determming management actions.

ORC recognizes that the Plan as written addressees monitoring studies on pages 50 and 51. However. this cursory reference is insufficient for a document that will be the basis of all future activities on the rivers. The Plan must detail and Integrate the analysis methodologies. Please see the enclosed example from the Dcschutes River plan.

ORC also wishes to make the following specific comments about the Plan:

-The Biological Section generally is commendable. ORC recommends two additions. One, recreational use should be limited when it impacts any sensitive species. including



Bald Eagles. Two, this section refers to a "Vision Statement" which is not included in the draft. The Final Plan should include the Vision Statement as part of the record (although the Vision Statement in no way lessens the managers responsibilities under the Act).

-Please cite the authorizing language that authorizes managers to claim that "...management may accommodate the concept of a viable economic unit that results in resource production..." (page 23).

-The Wild and Scenic Act explicitly refers to water rights; therefore the federal reserve water right must be discussed in the Plan.

-On page 50, the Plan states: "there are standard design procedures and management directions common to all public land activities." Congress set out purposes in the Wild and Scenic Act that are not common to all public lands. Saying that common public land standards are sufficient, or even applicable, to wild and scenic rivers does not conform with the Act.

-All timber harvests within the corridor on public land, whether programmed, salvage, for silviculture or other objectives must conform to the standard of protection for the ORV's. Please refer to section 12(a) of the Act.

Again, I thank you for the opportunity to work with the Baker Resource Area on this document. ORC looks forward to seeing the next draft of the Plan.

Sincerely,

for Bob Doppelt
Executive Director

Enc.

cc: Lynn George
Bob Freimark, Wilderness Society

[illegible] 7th St.
Anacortes, WA 98221
29 May 1992

Gerald M. Meyer
Rivers Planning Team
P.O. Box 987
Baker Oregon 97814

Dear Gerald Meyer:

In 1989 I floated the Wallowa and Grande Ronde from Minam to Heller Bar with Oregon River Experiences. I hope that the river will remain open to public use.

I've three major concerns: sanitation, motor boats, and relations with land owners.

On sanitation, if it were inforce able, I'd say to require all boaters to pack out their feces. In the real world, I'd suggest coming up with easy ways to do this, provide this information at put-ins and to those who inquire about floating the river. Double zip-lock freezer bags might work for individuals, or slip a plastic sack over the hand to pick up the excrement and use the bag as part of the packaging (for small amounts it can be picked up and the bag pulled inside out over it)

Jet boats remind me of the problems hikers have with motor bikes. Also, there was not much room to manuver in the river.. We saw all manner of craft going with the flow with out conflict, and could imagine many more fitting on the river. But, how to keep traffic civil and safe when one who is a young man at heart has a powerful motor on his boat with which to proclaim his masculinity and play king of the river? I hope motors will be restricted, and prefere their ~~x~~ exclusion, ~~x~~ especial from Sheep Creek Rapids to Troy, as there is little room to manouver and access for enforcement is lacking.

For continued public use of the river we need better relations. Users need to be reminded to respect private land and the rights of the owners. Providing the maps showing land ownership that are in the Draft Management Plan (reproduced with the same high readability) at Put-ins is a possibility. ~~Explaining~~ Matching ones position on the river with a location on the map would be easier if some signs were allowed ~~other than~~ in addition to "no trespassing" signs.

The fear of government interference with with private property rights is high. Please do not use condemnation actions to acquire private lands.

I like "Encourage cooperative projects that divert livestock from riparian zone." p.54. Hope you can do it while still providing water to the livestock.

My best wishes in the difficult balancing act.

Sincerely,

Oregon

WATER
RESOURCES
DEPARTMENT

Gary Miniszewski, River Planner
Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department
525 Trade Street SE
Salem, Oregon 97310

May 27, 1992

Dear Mr. Miniszewski:

Thank you for opportunity to comment on the combined National Wild and Scenic River and State Scenic Waterway - River Management Plan for the Wallowa and Grande Ronde Rivers. First of all I wish to commend you and the rest of the agency staffs. This is a very well thought out plan, it is apparent that a lot of hard work preceded this product. The partnerships between the agencies give the public better management of this important resource.

The River Management Plan for these rivers is important to the Water Resources Department for a variety of reasons. Most importantly, it is the document that best informs us of the policy set for the flow dependent river resources such as recreation, fish and wildlife. The River Management Plan gives us an idea of at least the level of scenic waterway/national wild and scenic river facilities to be developed. As you know, recently the Commission approved the "Diack" flows for these scenic waterways. Through this assessment we have found several months where flow levels for fish, wildlife and recreation are not met. During these months of short fall, the Water Resources Commission can not make positive findings for new consumptive uses in the Grande Ronde Basin. The River Management Plan outlines the need for some water developments that would serve the purposes of the Scenic Waterway and National Wild and Scenic River. It is important that the document that be explicit in how these developments would serve the purposes of the scenic waterway. The Water Resources Department is in the process of analyzing instream water right applications. The policies created by the River Management Plan is important to this process also. Since Water Resources Commission concurrence is required on new administrative rules for scenic waterways, we appreciate the opportunity to comment on the proposed rules early in the rulemaking process.

The Water Resources Department has some general concerns about the River Management Plan process and some specific observations about the Wallow/Grande Ronde River Management Plan itself. Attached are our staff comments on your plan. Please feel free to call (378-8455 ext 286) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Bill

Bill Fujii, Recreation Coordinator
Attachments

3850 Portland Rd NE
Salem, OR 97310
(503) 378-3739
FAX (503) 378-8130

General resource issues:

The major concern is that an analysis of flow dependent values is missing from the River Management Plan. What are the existing flow dependent outstandingly remarkable values? We had hoped that the River Management Plan would offer a more defined policy for instream flow. We believe that flow protection should be identified as a management activity during one of the stages of the River Management Plan. Perhaps it would be appropriate to review the comments supplied by the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest for the Water Resources Department's scenic waterway flow assessment recently completed for these two rivers. Since State Parks and Recreation is one of the three state agencies allowed to apply for instream water rights, it would seem appropriate for the plan to address instream water rights issues.

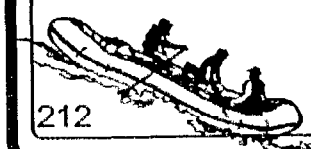
The rules for scenic waterway land management on the Grande Ronde Section are of some concern. The proposed rules seem to be inconsistent with the Natural Classification. Further they seem to be inconsistent with the National Wild and Scenic River "Wild" classification. Of specific concern is the appearance of these kinds of developments being proposed because of these rules.

The BLM has done and outstanding job monitoring flow related recreation activities in this corridor. Monitoring is important for understanding recreational trends. Understanding the relationship between recreation use and flow is necessary for quantification purposes. We suggest that the monitoring efforts be performed with this in mind and required in the plan.

There are areas outside the identified corridors that contribute to the outstandingly remarkable values inside the corridor. Management actions in these "outside" areas that protect the outstandingly remarkable values of the river corridor should be pointed out. Examples: Retention style forest practices outside corridors can protect visual values and keep water quality high in the designated reach. Protecting spawning gravels of creeks that feed the mainstem would keep the aquatic life within the mainstem healthy. The Plan needs more specific descriptions of actions to protect vital tributaries such as Wildcat Creek, the Minam River and the Upper Mainstem of the Grande Ronde being carried out in the Forest plan(s) and the Resource Area Plan would be appropriate.

To evaluate the impacts of the alternatives, more baseline information would be helpful. The resource information needed is:

- -forested acres in the corridor (and age class of even aged stands)
- -acreage of grazing land, current cattle management practices (number of AUMs, rotations, fencing, condition of range etc.)
- -private vs public lands for whole corridor
- -existing roads
- -existing mines



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For example, while the discussion of range on page 45 is interesting, without some baseline information it is difficult to make any judgements on the range issues or alternatives. Information on the amount, condition and pressure on the range by location in the river corridor would be very helpful. If this information is not available, perhaps this monitoring activity should be built into the alternatives. The same can be said of forest harvest units. Although the narrative on page 46 is very good, a map and or some other way to have an idea of the general make up and condition of the forest would be helpful.

Process issues:
There are several state and federal planning processes going on at once in this same area. An expanded discussion of these concurrent processes would be helpful. The document should include an explanation of the difference between the River Management Plan (Environmental Assessment) and the Wallowa River Eligibility and Suitability Study being done under section 5 (a) of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. It would be helpful to make the discussion of the Wallowa section consistent with the rest of the report. For example, the table describing the alternatives lists impacts on social/economic values. However, the rest of the tables in the document, the impacts are listed elsewhere. There are other inconsistencies that are format and content specific listed later by page number.

It would also help to expand the discussion the process for establishing the proposed scenic waterway classifications through administrative rule.

A description of Scenic Waterway restrictions is in order for mining. Although placer mining is not allowed by state law, the definition of placer mining allows use of devices that have less than a four inch intake.

All maps should clearly define the state scenic waterway. It would be helpful to display the same type of information for both designations, i.e. scenic waterway classifications.

The following are some suggestions for specific areas in the River Management Plan:

Page 1 table 1:
Suggest you include the Wallowa section in this table. You may need to change the label of this table to reflect this study area.

Page 2 first paragraph:
It may be helpful to label this paragraph boundaries and have some discussion of the resource issues that led to the determination of the fixed boundary.

Page 6 scenic waterway resource analysis:

Page 6 scenic waterway resource analysis:
What criteria were used to make the "Special Attributes" the same as Outstandingly Remarkable Values?

Page 8 Pacific Northwest Electric Power Planning and Conservation Act:
This would be a very good place to discuss the Power Planning Council protected area status. You may wish to contact Dwayne Anderson of the Power Planning Council office in Portland to clarify this status.

Page 9:
Department of Fish and Wildlife add:
ODFW is one of the three agencies that can apply for instream water rights. The Department has applied for instream water rights on the Wallow/Grande Ronde River. (Instream rights and applications for entire Wallow/Grande Ronde drainage are attached)

Page 11 Oregon Department of Environmental Quality and Washington Department of Ecology:
Department of Environmental Quality add:

DEQ is one of the three agencies that can apply for instream water rights. DEQ also has administrative rules ability to nominate the Wallow/Grande Ronde for an Outstanding Waters classification.

Since one of the goals for a Wild or Natural classification should be the protection of water quality, this kind of anti-degradation classification from DEQ may be appropriate.
We also suggest you contact these respective agencies to get an expanded dialogue on their respective responsibilities (especially TMDL areas). I believe that the Washington Department of Ecology has a coordinating role in all county shoreline plans.

Page 12 Oregon Water Resources Department Replace with: WRD is responsible for the management and allocation of the state's water resources. A citizen body, the Water Resources Commission develops policy and has authority on various water related issues. These policies are applied through basin programs. Sixteen of Oregon's 18 river basins have a basin program that is periodically updated. Basin programs are administrative rules which generally classify the streams and lakes for allowable future water uses. The classifications may include domestic, livestock, municipal, irrigation, power, industrial, mining, recreation, wildlife and fish life uses. The State Water Resources Board (predecessor to current Water Resources Commission) adopted a basin program for the Wallow/Grande Ronde River in 1958.

The Scenic Waterway Act prohibits new dams, impoundments, and placer mining in scenic waterways and on tributary streams within scenic waterway boundaries. The Scenic Waterways Act requires Water Resources Commission concurrence on proposed land condemnations, new scenic waterway management plans and scenic waterway additions proposed by State Parks and

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Recreation Department for designation by the governor. The Water Resources Commission must also find its actions have no adverse effects on flows that support fish, wildlife, and recreation in downstream scenic waterways. In order to make findings the Water Resources Commission approved a scenic waterway flow assessment for the Wallowa and Grande Ronde Rivers Scenic Waterways in March of 1992. This assessment reviews the known data for fish, wildlife and recreation.

WRD issues instream water rights to protect streamflows for public purposes. Instream water rights can be granted in two ways: (1) conversion from minimum perennial stream flows and (2) application from the three state agencies: Department of Fish and Wildlife, Parks and Recreation Department, and Department of Environmental Quality. Any one of the three agencies can also acquire an instream right through donation, lease, or purchase of an out-of-stream right.

Page 15 Ownership:
Does the state of Washington make a similar claim of the bed and banks of the river?

Page 26 Wallowa River summary of Alternatives:
What are the Study River Values?

Page 31, second paragraph, change to read:
There are no water rights of record within a quarter mile, approximately, of each side of the designated reach of the Wallowa River. Along the designated reach of the Grande Ronde, however, ten rights of record within a quarter mile of each side, permit the diversion of *slightly more than 3 cfs, primarily for irrigation uses. These rights are concentrated below Wildcat Creek.*

Page 31 third and fourth paragraphs:
These are redundant and within this report somewhat out of context, we suggest you delete them.

Page 31 fifth paragraph:
Although the legislature worked on the scenic waterways act, it did not pass the bill. The act was created by initiative petition. We suggest you change the first sentence to read:

The Oregon Scenic Waterways Act specifies that the highest and best use of the waters within Scenic Waterways are recreation, fish and wildlife.

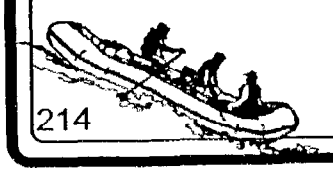
Page 45 Range:
Please cite scientific reference for the discussion of single management alternatives. There is no inventory or analysis of current situation or pressure.

Page 64 Livestock:
These two paragraphs seem overstated with many value judgements not based on the resource. Since there is no evidence of an inventory of the range condition it is difficult to come to any conclusion on this subject. Perhaps an alternative that proposes a grazing management plan for the corridor would be more appropriate such as the discussion on page 85 Alternative b.

Page 70 Fencing, water developments and holding facilities will be developed at critical locations to assist livestock management:
Would these developments be directly benefiting the scenic waterway values? Is there sufficient evidence to allow new consumptive uses that may conflict with flows necessary for other scenic waterway values such as recreation or fish? If so, state these benefits clearly so they can be registered as policy. The management plan may assist the Water Resources Commission in making a finding for these types of developments, if the criteria for such projects are clear.

Page 129:
The Natural classification should be the most restrictive of all the scenic waterway classifications. The provisions for tree harvest, roads, utilities and mining seem inconsistent with this classification and the National Wild and Scenic River Classification. Especially mining, please refer to the last paragraph on page 70.

Page 132 Management Recommendations:
It would seem appropriate to have some dialogue about instream water rights. Especially if there are some management activities that would need to be exempted from such an instream right.



THE OREGON RIVERS COUNCIL
P.O. Box 309 • Eugene, Oregon 97440 • 503-345-0119

May 22, 1992

STATE PARKS
SALEM OFFICE
MAY 26 1992
Oregon State Parks

Gary Miniszewski, River Planner
State Parks and Recreation Department
525 Trade St. SE
Salem, OR 97310

RE: Wallowa and Grande Ronde Rivers Scenic Waterway Management Plan

Dear Gary:

We are in receipt of the proposed rules for the Wallowa and Grande Ronde Scenic Waterways. These rules were sent out as part of the Draft Management Plan, Environmental Assessment dated May 1992. We offer the following comments:

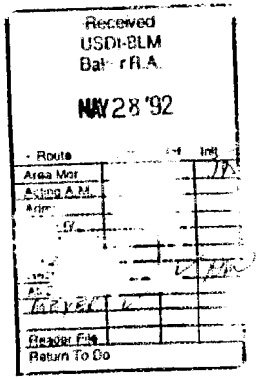
1. The EA identifies a wide range of resource values within the Wallowa and Grande Ronde State Scenic Waterways.

2. The proposed rules lack the policies necessary to protect the resource values identified. Once again we have a "screen from the view from the river" set of rules which allow a whole host of development activities to occur with little regard for true protection of the resource values. This is not the intent of the State Scenic Waterway Act. In fact both the Act and State Parks rules both provide for the protection of a whole range of resource values within State Scenic Waterways. We urge the Department to develop plans which in fact will protect these resources.

It is our hope that as a result of the State Scenic Waterway Program review which State Parks is currently undergoing that all management plans will be reviewed for there effectiveness in protecting resource values within the state's Scenic Waterways. With all the signs of river degradation in Oregon, State Parks must become a leader in protecting State Scenic Waterway resource values rather than protecting just the "scenic" view.

Sincerely,

Bob Doppelt
Executive Director



DEPARTMENT OF
FISH AND
WILDLIFE

Enterprise District Office

May 20, 1992

Jack Albright, Area Manager
Bureau of Land Management
Baker Resource Area Headquarters
PO Box 907
Baker City, OR 97814

Dear Jack,

The draft Wallowa and Grande Ronde Rivers Environmental Assessment contains an adequate range of alternatives and good background discussion. However; the alternatives section, in general, lacks the concise wording, direction, and organization needed to develop a focused view of future condition and management in the river corridor.

We reviewed, carefully, the preferred alternatives. As a result, most comments relate specifically to Wallowa River alternative A and Grande Ronde River alternative B as follows:

PAGE 52

Forestry
- Helicopter logging should be identified as a means to reduce road construction in the corridor.
- Include more specifics on how, where, what type, and how many "old trees" to maintain. "Wolf" type pine of relatively low value should be left due to their importance to wildlife (eagle roosts, nests, and potential snags).
- Define what will be done with low capability lands - longer rotation?

Fish and Wildlife
- Use restrictions away from the river may be needed to protect wintering wildlife, December 1 - April 30.
- More specific snag retention goals should be developed.
- Include seeding of all closed roads as forage improvement.

Social and Economic
- How will this plan "insure" existing rural lifestyle?

Route 1, Box 278
Hatchery Road
Enterprise, OR 97828

PAGE 53

Recreation
- Improve staging area for floater traffic only. Motorized boat traffic is not a historic use, is inappropriate, and considering the potential social and wildlife related problems should not be encouraged

Livestock
- Should include some type of monitoring to identify areas, if any, where livestock use needs to be modified.

PAGE 54

Transportation
- New roads constructed within the corridor should be closed after use.

Water Resources
- Why do stipulations for protection of a public resource apply only to public lands?

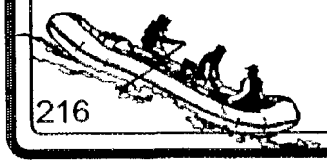
Landowner Rights
- Public agencies should be allowed to actively seek acquisition of private land deemed to be of outstanding value for wildlife or recreation.

PAGE 72

Land
- Good section, in general.
- How would timber harvest be used to enhance ORV's?

Water
- Will monitoring within the corridor really be able to determine sources of pollution?
- Water rights would not be affected by this plan but, realistically, the use may.
- Again, why stipulate only degrading activities on public land.

Biological
- Good section, in general.
- Should include some specific wording for fish and wildlife habitat protection.



PAGE 72

Biological
- Monitoring populations does little to insure long term biodiversity and productivity, maintaining habitat does.
- Items 3 and 4 - left column; intent of these statements is not clear.
- Exclude domestic sheep grazing from the corridor in order to protect bighorn sheep from disease introduction.
- Last two items contain good thoughts but could be reworded.
- Timber harvest should be by selective cutting utilizing low impact methods with exceptions for efforts to restore bunchgrass winter range or catastrophic events.
- Increased road density should be discouraged on both public and private land.
  Any new road constructed should be seeded and closed after use.

PAGE 73

Social
- Again, the use of motorized craft in the corridor is not a historic use and should be looked at closely for social and biological impacts in the confined canyon.

PAGE 74

Administrative
- Most flows associated with the wild and scenic area are recreational rather than fish and wildlife flows.
- Areas of unique character or high valve as wildlife habitat or camp sites should be prioritized and agencies encouraged to seek aquisition.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide our comments on the Draft EA. If we can help with the process in the future please give us a call.

Sincerely,

Vic Coggins
District Wildlife Biologist

Bradley J. Smith
District Fish Biologist

bsp
46

c Williams
Ely
Marks
McEwen

STATE PARKS
SALEM OFFICE
MAY 26 1992

Oregon State Parks

1710 7th St.
Anacortes, WA 98221
May 21, 1992

Gary Miniszewski, Rivers Planner
Oregon Parks and Reck. Dept.
525 Trade Street SE

Dear Mr. Miniszewski:

Here are some comments on Oregon's proposals for the Wallowa and Grande Ronde Rivers.

I applaud the goal of protecting private property rights. Reading appendix G, I see a one year advance notice requirement. That seems a bit much, although the exclusions help. An exclusion (or faster proceedure) is needed for clean-up and restoration/reconstruction after disasters. Prompt salvage logging, replacement of structures, etc. is needed to minimize losses to property owners and possibly mitigate environmental damage. If this is allowed as "emergency measures" which may be taken immediately, clarification might help.

Re: Screening requirement. Administrative rules repeat screening regulations all the way down the river system as if it were a river on the west side where trees grow rapidly and are a natural part of the scene. I rode a raft from Minam to Hellers Bar in '89, and remember the forest as rather sparce and, apparently, slow growing at best, with the lower portion (above Troy on down) having only scattered shrub like "trees." For example: there is a road which descends a steep, open hillside to the south side of the river. It is steep enough that improvements are likely to be necessary. If the required vegetative screen were established, the greenery would be the most outstandingly remarkable feature of the river for as far as it could be seen, and would require pumping water from the river for irrigation. Surely this is an oversight. Guide lines for exterior appearance (natural wood or stone, earth tone paints...) are a posibility for structures. I don't know what to suggest beyond acceptance for road grades.

Re Signs: I feel that private recreational developments in the river corridor could add to its recreational potential and cut down on the degredation of the river associated with camping and random defication. Some signage visable from the river should be allowed for services. (at least as visable as the "No Treaspassing" signs)

My best wishes in your work with private landowners and other agencies in the management of the Wallowa/Grande Ronde. Hope you will keep the red tape, delays, and regulations to a minimum so landowners will see this as a tolerable beurocratic addition, and the public can continue to use the rivers.

Sincerely,

Richard C. Bloom
1702 I Z Washington
La Grande OR 97850

Gary Miniszewski
Rivers Planner
525 Trade Street SE
Salem, OR 97310
(and BLM planners, Baker)

Dear Mr. Miniszewski, and all concerned:

This letter is in response to one of two National Wild and Scenic river plans. This specific letter is in reference to the Wallowa-Grande Ronde River Draft Management Plan Environmental Assessment. For the record, I am in favor of multiple use of our national resources. I am also very concerned, however, for the future of the same resources. Therefor I favor the approach of local committees with local, varied interests being represented to help develop the best solution to "multiple use" of these resources.

Concerning the Draft Management Plan for the Grande Ronde River, I am generally in favor of the proposed plan, that being the preferred plan for managed, multiple use. I favor the access for limited salvage, and managed timber resources. The draft management plan that includes multiple use of the areas natural resources and the use by private land owners of their own land as they see fit (within "renewable" reason) and in accordance with current regulations.

Please keep me informed of the progress of this proposal and other BLM activities that would limit the multiple use of natural resources.

Sincerely

Richard C. Bloom

Edward A. Bloom
PO Box 55
Cove OR 97824

Gary Miniszewski
Rivers Planner
525 Trade Street SE
Salem, OR 97310
(and BLM planners, Baker)

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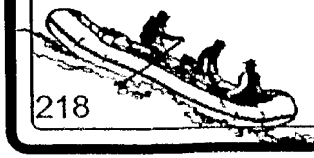
Sincerely

Edward A. Bloom



NORS-National Organization for River Sports

May 1, 1992

Bureau of Land Management
P.O. Box 987
Baker City, Oregon 97814

Dear Sirs:

The National Organization for River Sports (NORS) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Draft Management Plan and Environmental Assessment for the Powder, Wallowa and Grande Ronde rivers. We would like to request receiving the final plan, EIS and Decision of Record for comment when they become available.

NORS has gone on record frequently as to our concerns on river management plans. Limitations, allocation, power vehicles (including boats) and concessionaires are major concerns of NORS in addition to being national river issues.

We note that these draft plans do not adequately address these issues. These major concerns are of such importance, that a finding of no significant impact is not warranted. The plans are written in such broad general terms, that it is difficult to determine what specifically will be done on these issues. This would make it almost impossible to evaluate whether the final management complies with the plan. A management plan is deficient if it defers decisions and relies on future monitoring studies, and evaluation for issues that should be decided today. To say that there will be restrictions on numbers of trips or unacceptable resource impacts, without defining the terms is meaningless. The entire documents are couched in these ambiguous terms.

We do support eliminating all power vehicles within the river corridor, including the Wallowa and Powder Rivers The plan should specifically give reference to no power, even when it may presently be impractical, on the Powder River for example. Since power vehicles are a major issue, the plan should address management of power vehicles on all sections of these rivers.

NORS-National Organization for River Sports

The issues we express concern for have already been addressed in appeals of other river plans or actions such as those on the White, Klickitat, McKenzie and Clackamas rivers. Our appeals are available from the agencies and should give some indication of the specific NORS views on limitations, allocation and concessionaires in addition to power vehicles.

In a letter to you on April 10, 1992 NORS requested certain information that is essential in review of these plans. We hope this data will be sent us before the final comment period.

Sincerely,

John H. Garren

John H. Garren, Regional Representative
National Organization for River Sports
01008 S.W. Comus St.
Portland, OR 97219
(503)636-3506

March 2, 1992

RECEIVED
MAR 04 1992
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
BAKER CITY, OR

Oregon
STATE
MARINE
BOARD

Gerry Meyer
Recreation Planner
Bureau of Land Management
Baker Resource Area
P.O. Box 987
Baker City, OR 97814

Dear Gerry:

Please find below suggested changes in the narrative describing the State Marine Board in preliminary draft of the Wallowa and Grande Ronde Rivers Management Plan/Environmental Assessment.

The Oregon State Marine Board was established in 1959. The Board promotes safe recreational boating and regulates the use of watercraft on waterways throughout the state. All motorized watercraft and sailboats over 12' in length are rryuired to be titled and registered with the Marine Board. Fishing and hunting guides and outfitters who operate in Oregon are also required to register with the Board.

The Board has the authority to adopt rules governing the operation of recreational watercraft including the ability to ""make special regulations relating to the operation of boats, including the establishment of designated speeds and prohibition of the use of motorboats for the protection of game and game fish at the request of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, or the carrying out the provisions of the federal Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, Public Law 90-542, and the Oregon Scenic Waterways Act, ORS 390.805 to 390.925."

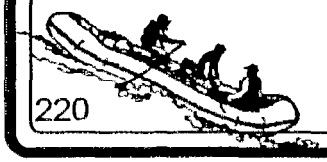
State boating laws and operating rules are enforced by county sheriffs and the State Police. The Marine Board contracts for local enforcement activities and provides the necessary funding for staff, equipment, and training for marine programs in 33 counties. In addition to law enforcement, marine patrols conduct safety inspections, place and maintain uniform waterway markers and navigational aids, and provide search & rescue services.

Grants for the development and maintentance of boating related facilites are also available to state agencies, cities, counties, port authorities, and park and recreation districts from state funds appropriated to the Board. The Board also develops and distributes boating education and safety materials including printed literature, school programs, and informational kiosks at boating access sites. Funds for the Board's programs and services come from fees paid by boaters, fuel taxes, and federal grants.

If you have any questions regarding this material please don't hesitate to give me a call.

Sincerely,

Wayne Shuyler
Waterway Planner



27 April 1992

I am opposed to any scenic waterway designations with their added restrictions which cause further problems for economic activity.

The State of Oregon is causing the loss of millions of dollars of tax revenue by strangling those who work and produce by counterproductive laws and regulations.

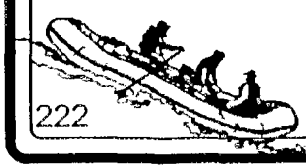
Leave the rivers alone !

Sincerely,

Jack A. Walker

Jack A. Walker

Vale, Oregon 97918



APPENDIX G - OREGON STATE SCENIC WATERWAY RULES OF LAND MANAGEMENT

OAR 736-40-035

These rules and regulations governing the use of related adjacent lands and improvements made on or to these lands apply to all designated scenic waterways. Land management on scenic waterways includes, but is not limited to the following examples:

(1) Timber Harvest: The forest cover on related adjacent land is a part of the scenic beauty of the scenic waterway and notification of planned timber harvest operations must be given to the Commission one year prior to commencement. The notification must include a plan specifying timber to be cut, road locations, logging methods, slash cleanup, soil stabilization, revegetation measures and any other details as the commission may require.

(2) Tree Cutting: No person shall cut any living tree within a scenic waterway without prior written notice except as provided in these rules.

(3) Grazing and Farming: Existing use in the form of grazing or farming of the related adjacent land is a part of the scenic beauty of the waterway. Notification is not required for:

(a) Construction of fences;

(b) Maintenance of farm buildings, fences or appurtenances necessary to existing use;

(c) Laying of irrigation lines;

(d) Pumphouse construction, if not in violation of OAR 736-40-030(5);

(f) Crop rotation;

(g) Variations in grazing land management;

(h) Placing of grazing land under cultivation, except within classified natural river areas named in OAR 736-40-045 through 736-40-075;

(i) Construction of silos and grain storage facilities, and other structures or buildings as are needed in connection with the existing use of the related adjacent land, if not in violation of OAR 736-40-030(5), except within classified natural river areas named in OAR 736-40-045 through 736-40-075;

(j) Cutting of danger trees. Notification is required for construction of new roads or improvement of existing roads.

(4) Suburban Housing: Notification is not required for:

(a) Maintenance of existing homes in a manner compatible with these rules and regulations;

(b) Modifications to existing single family dwellings, if not in violation of OAR 736-40-030(5);

(c) Construction of garages necessary to the use of existing homes, if not in violation of OAR 736-40-030(5);

(d) Changes in or additions to homesite landscaping which do not impair vegetation screening structures from view from the river;

(e) Construction of protective fences necessary to use of the home;

(f) Cutting of firewood for occupant`s dwelling;

(g) Cutting of danger trees. Notification is required for construction of new roads or improvement of existing roads.

(5) Prospecting, Mining, Dredging, and Quarrying:

(a) All prospecting, mining, dredging, and quarrying operations, including removal or movement of gravel, rocks and sand within related adjacent lands, require notification to the Commission as prescribed herein;

(b) Such notification shall include plans to insure that debris, silt, chemicals or other materials, shall not be discharged into or allowed to reach the waters within a scenic waterway and that the natural beauty of the scenic waterway shall not be impaired substantially.

(6) Transportation Facilities and Utilities:

(a) No roads, railroads or other facilities for transportation or utilities shall be constructed or improved within a scenic waterway without notification to the Commission as prescribed by the Act and herein;

(b) The Commission, whenever practicable, will require the sharing of land and airspace by such facilities and utilities. All permissible transportation facilities and utilities shall be so located as to minimize impairment of the natural beauty of the scenic waterway. For example, it will be desirable to place electrical and telephone lines underground wherever reasonably practicable.

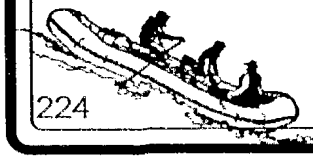
(7) Structures, Buildings, and Other Improvements: Except as provided in OAR 736-40-030(5), sections (3) and (4) of this rule and OAR 736-40-045 through 736-40-075, no structures, buildings, or other improvements shall be made, erected or placed on related adjacent lands without notification to the Commission as prescribed by the Act and herein. Permitted new structures, buildings, or other improvements on related adjacent lands which can be seen from the waters within a scenic waterway shall:

(a) Be of such design and be constructed of such materials as to be unobtrusive and compatible with the scenic qualities of the area. For example, the following shall apply:

(1) All structures shall be finished in muted tones appropriate to their natural surroundings;

(2) No large areas, including roofs, shall be finished with white or bright colors or reflective materials;

(3) Except for large farm buildings such as barns, metal siding or roofing shall not be used;



(4) No structures shall exceed 30 feet in height from naturall grade on a side facing the river;

(5) All structures shall be so designed and constructed that little or no soil is left exposed when construction is completed.

(b) Be located in such a way that topography and natural vegetation make them as inconspicuous as reasonably practicable, and in no case obtruding on the view from the river. The Commission may require that additional vegetative screening be established and maintained. In such event, it shall be evergreen, wherever practicable, and compatible with natural growth in the area.

(8) Mobile homes, modular residential structures, house trailers, campers and similar structures, and vehicles: Mobile homes, modular residential structures, house trailers, campers, motor homes and the like shall not be established as dwellings, either permanent, (or) seasonal or temporary, within related adjacent lands unless they are entirely concealed from view from the waters within a scenic waterway by topography, except, that those mobile homes, modular residential structures and house trailers that are at least 20 feet wide, with exterior dimensions, less hitch, of 800 square feet, may be permitted under these rules subject to the same requirements and standards set forth in the previous section relating to criteria for review for structures and improvements that are visible from the waters within a scenic waterway. Additionally, except when a mobile home, modular residential structure, house trailer or the like is not set on a ground-level foundation, full skirting shall be installed which in design, color and texture appears to be an integral part of the exterior of the structure.

(a) For purposes of these rules, a structure is a mobile home, modular residential structure, house trailer, camper or motor home if it is used, designed or intended to house persons, and is transported to the site in a state of substantial prefabrication. Once a structure fulfills this test, it shall remain subject to the rule regardless of whether the wheels or other temporary assembly have been removed or detached, and regardless of whether the structure os subsequently relocated;

(b) Within public recreation sites and transient public trailer parks where travel trailers, campers, motor homes and similar vehicles are permitted by the public agency, firm or individual maintaining the facility, their transient, short-term use by travelers is allowed, but they shall not be left on the site during their user's absence of more than three (3) day's duration.

(9) Maintenance of Structures and Improvements; Owners and users of existing structures and other improvements shall maintain them and their surroundings in a manner and condition in harmony with the environment, compatible with the objectives set forth in these rules and regulations for the classified river area in which they be, and without impairing substantially the natural beauty of the scenic waterway. The existing color of such structures may be maintained.

(10) Replacement of Existing Structures and Improvements: Replacement of existing structures and improvements, including those lost by fire, flood or other casualty, will be permitted, provided the new structure or improvement is in compliance with provisions of the Act and these rules and regulations. Notification procedures set forth in OAR 736-40-040 and Commission approval are required.

(11) Advertising: No signs or other forms of outdoor advertising that are visible from waters within a scenic waterway shall be constructed or maintained. Property protection signs (No Hunting, No Trespassing, et cetera) are exempted.

(12) Erosion Protection: The Commission recognizes that erosion protection work and maintenance may be necessary on riverbanks and related adjacent lands along the scenic waterways. Notification, which shall include plans to protect the natural beauty of the scenic waterway, and Commission approval are required.

(13) Submerged and Submersible Lands:

(a) No dam or reservoir or other water impoundment facility shall be constructed or placer mining permitted on waters within scenic

waterways. No water diversion facility shall be constructed or used except by right previously established or as permitted by the State Engineer;

(b) No bank protection works or dredging facility shall be constructed or used on such waters, except as permitted by the Director of the Division of State Lands and approved by the State Land Board.

(14) Emergencies:

(a) The owner or his authorized agent may act in emergencies without prior notice when necessary in the interest of public safety, or safety of his own property, except that notice of any action taken shall be filed with the Commission not later than seven days following the commencement of the emergency procedures;

(b) The owner or his authorized agent must show that the emergency situation required immediate action to prevent immediate danger or damage. Such emergency procedures shall not be extended beyond the minimum necessary to accomplish the needed protection safely and shall be conducted throughout in such manner as to minimize impairment of the natural beauty of the scenic waterway. For example, car bodies and similar scrap or trash shall not be used as riprap.

(15) Solid Waste, Pollution and Sanitation: Owners, occupants and users of related adjacent land shall comply with the rules and regulations of the Department of Environmental Quality relating to solid waste control, water, air and noise pollution control and sewage disposal.

Classification of Scenic Waterways and Segments Thereof OAR 736-40-040

(1) Rules 736-40-040 through 736-40-075 supplement, but in no way alter, other provisions of these rules and regulations. Notification procedures set forth in rules 736-40-030, 736-40-035 and 736-40-080, relating to Land Management, are applicable to these rules. In order to establish varying intensities of protection or development based on special attributes of each area within the scenic waterways, the following classifications are established:

(a) Natural River Areas:

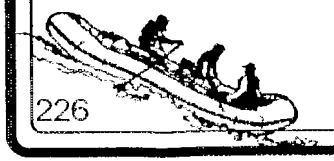
(1) Those designated scenic waterways or segments thereof that are generally inaccessible except by trail or the river, with related adjacent lands and shorelines essentially primitive. These represent vestiges of primitive America.

(2) Natural River Areas may include an occasional lightly traveled road, airstrip, habitation or other kind of improvement already established, provided the effects are limited to the immediate vicinity.

(3) Natural River Areas will be administered to preserve their natural, wild and primitive condition, essentially unaltered by the effects of man, while allowing compatible recreational uses, other compatible existing uses and protection of fish and wildlife habitat.

(b) Scenic River Areas:

(1) Those designated scenic waterways or segments thereof with related adjacent lands and shorelines still largely primitive and largely undeveloped, except for agriculture and grazing, but accessible in places by roads. Scenic River Areas may not include long stretches of conspicuous or well-traveled roads paralleling the river in close proximity, but may include extensive areas in agricultural use.



(2) Scenic Areas will be administered to maintain or enhance their high scenic quality, recreational value, fishery and wildlife habitat, while preserving their largely undeveloped character and allowing continuing agricultural uses.

(c) Recreational River Areas:

(1) Those designated scenic waterways or segments thereof that are readily accessible by road or railroad, that may have some development along their shorelines and related adjacent lands, and that may have undergone some impoundment or diversion in the past.

(2) Recreational River Areas will be administered to allow continuance of compatible existing uses, while allowing a wide range of compatible river-oriented public outdoor recreation opportunities, to the extent that these do no impair substantially the natural beauty of the scenic waterway or diminish its aesthetic, fish and wildlife, scientific and recreational values.

(d) Natural Scenic View Areas:

(1) Those designated shorelines and related adjacent lands, lying along only one bank of a river within a scenic waterway, which possess the qualities of a Natural or Scenic River Area except that the opposite shoreline and related adjacent land, by reason of accessibility, or development, qualifies only for a less restrictive classification.

(2) Natural Scenic View Areas will be administered to preserve or enhance their essentially primitive scenic character, while allowing compatible public outdoor recreational use.

(e) Accessible Natural River Areas:

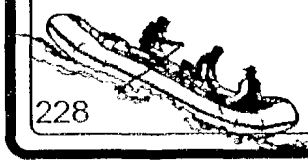
(A) Those designated scenic waterways or segments thereof that ore readily accessible by road or railroad but otherwise possess the qualities of a Natural or Scenic river Area.

(B) Accessible Natural River Areas will be administered to protect or enhance their essentially primitive scenic character, while allowing compatible public outdoor recreation use.

(f) River Community Areas - Those designated areas of a scenic waterway, perhaps on only one bank of the river, where density of structures or other developments already existing or provided for precludes application of a more restrictive classification.

(2) (a) Within the general framework of these classifications, the Commission will further consider the nature and extent of existing land uses and developments, the scenic qualities and the aesthetic, fish and wildlife, scientific and recreational values of each classified area within the scenic waterways in determining whether, in its judgment, proposals for changes of land use or improvements are compatible with the Act.

(b) Because of the individual character of each scenic waterway, administrative criteria within each of the six classifications may vary from one scenic waterway to another.



APPENDIX H - MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This agreement is between the United States, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) acting by and through the Oregon State Director; the USDA Forest Service (FS), acting by and through the Regional Forester, Region 6; and the State of Oregon, by and through the Parks and Recreation Department (Parks).

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, on various rivers throughout Oregon, the State of Oregon, the BLM and the FS administer, manage or regulate the use of lands within certa in river corridors and have various programs and responsibilities in regard to these programs and lands under their respective jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, the State of Oregon, under the state Scenic Waterways Act and the BLM and FS under the federal Wild and Scenic Rivers Act are charged with parallel duties of identification, planning, and administration of rivers with special qualities as set out in those acts; and

WHEREAS, the State of Oregon, BLM, and FS have differing authorities, jurisdictions, and administrative capabilities as to the lands and waters within the river corridors; and

WHEREAS, the State of Oregon and the United States have common objectives as to the planning and management of these lands and water resources making it desirable for the State of Oregon and the United States to cooperate in the planning and management of these resources; and

WHEREAS, the Regional Forester, FS, has the authority to enter into this agreement by virtue of the authority granted to the Secretary of Agriculture by Sec. 11, P.L. 90-542 as amended thereto; and

WHEREAS, the State Director, BLM has the authority to enter into this agreement by virtue of the authority granted to the Secretary of the Interior by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (42 U.S.C. 1737) and for components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Systems by virtue of P.L. 90-542 as amended; and

WHEREAS, the State of Oregon, by and through Parks enters into this agreement by virtue of the authority granted by ORS 390.140(2)(b) and

NOW THEREFORE, it is agreed between the parties as follows;

A. When the State of Oregon, the BLM, or the FS determine that a river corridor is under formal consideration for designation under either the state or federal rivers programs, they will notify the other parties and afford them an appropriate opportunity for participation in consideration of the river corridor for designation.

B. The FS and the BLM agree to consult and cooperate with Parks when conducting resource management planning within designated wild and scenic river corridor, designated state scenic waterways, rivers considered candidates for state or federal designation or other rivers mutually agreed upon and identified.

C. When a river which is designated by the State of Oregon as a scenic waterway includes federal lands within its boundaries, Parks will consult and cooperate with the BLM and/or FS as appropriate during the establishment of management guidelines and administrative rules.

D. Work projects or activities which involve transfer of money, services or property will require execution of a separate agreement. Alternative agreements include Challenge Cost-Share Agreements, Participating Agreements, Procurement Contracts and local Memorandum of Understanding. Each project will be signed and documented by the responsible organizational line officer using the appropriate agreement. These agreements will address such matters as planning for recreational developments, acceptable types and levels of use, resource management program constraints and guidelines, and administrative arrangements including the transfer of funds and the sharing of personnel to effectively plan for and manage river corridors. If either federal agency does not manage lands in a particular river corridor, that agency need not be a party to the supplemental agreement for the river.

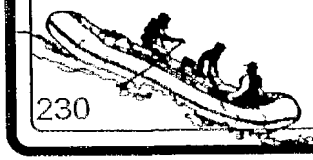
E. It is recognized that it is in the best interest of the state and federal agencies to avoid duplicative planning processes on designated rivers. Therefore, to the greatest extent possible, management planning on designated rivers shall be consolidated into one process - state and federal - that satisfies the needs of both entities.

In some cases, it may be necessary to determine a lead or coordinating agency to facilitate the process. The responsibilities of the various involved parties shall be enumerated in a memorandum of understanding as described in (D) above.

F. Parks will, to the extent possible, communicate with affected state agencies regarding FS or BLM river corridor planning and management activities subject to this agreement.

G. BLM and FS fully recognize the need to notify and consult with Parks at the earliest possible opportunity regarding land use activities on federal lands that may impact the natural resource values of the rivers shown in Attachment A (of master document) of this agreement. Parks review shall be to determine an activity or project's compatibility with the maintenance of the river's natural beauty according to the standards in the scenic waterway management rules (OAR Chapter 736 Division 40).

H. It is recognized that the parties to this Agreement and their agencies and representatives have responsibilities under statute or otherwise which cannot be waived or abrogated. This agreement does not affect such non-discretionary mandates.



I. Nothing in this Agreement shall commit the parties or their agencies or representatives to the expenditure of funds not authorized by law.

J. Any party may withdraw from this Agreement upon written notice to the other parties. The withdrawal of one or more parties shall not affect the validity of this Agreement as to the remaining parties.

K. Amendments to this Agreement may be proposed by any party and shall become effective on approval by all parties.

L. No member or delegate to Congress or resident Commissioner shall be admitted to any share or part of this Agreement, or to any benefit that may arise therefrom; but this provision shall not be construed to extend to this agreement if made with a corporation for its general benefit.

M. Attachment A (of master document) is a list of existing state scenic waterways.

N. Attachment B (of master document) is a list of existing Federally - designated rivers.

The Parks and Recreation Commission, by a duly-adopted delegation order number 1, authorized the State Parks Director to execute this agreement on behalf of the Commission. Approval for this delegation order was given at its January 26, 1990, meeting.

State of Oregon, by and through
its State Parks and Recreation
Department

Director

United States of America, by and
through its USDA Forest Service,
Region 6

John F. Butruille - Regional Forester

United States of America, by and
through its USDI Bureau of Land
Management, Oregon State Office

State Director

APPENDIX I - MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department
State Agency Coordination Program

RIVERS PROGRAM

SCENIC WATERWAYS PROGRAM

The two actions that affect land use in this program are: 1. Adoption or amendment of a State Scenic Waterway Management Plan; and 2. Approval of development proposals within the boundaries of a State Scenic Waterway.

Action 1: Management Plan Adoption or Amendment by the Commission in Concurrence with the Water Resources Department Commission

Authorities: ORS 390.845 provides that with few exceptions (ORS 390.835) scenic waterways shall be administered by the department, each in such a manner as to protect and enhance the values which caused such scenic waterway to be included in the system. In such administration primary emphasis shall be given to protecting the aesthetic, scenic, fish and wildlife, scientific and recreation features, based on the special attributes of each area. Management plans for each scenic waterway designation are developed to assist in that administration. ORS 390.934 provides the guidelines for management and development of the Deschutes River Scenic Waterway Recreation Area.

Analysis: General Rules of Land Management for all Scenic Waterways are described in OAR 736-40-035. In addition to these rules and regulations governing the use of related adjacent lands and improvements made on or to the adjacent lands, classifications by each river and segment and general administrative criteria are developed for each river and segment. The general rules and the adopted criteria for the management of the waterway are used in the review and recommendation of action for the notification to the Department of development proposals and other activities within the Scenic Waterway boundary.

Designated State Scenic Waterways are a State Goal 5 resource. Adoption or amendment of a scenic waterway management plan may reasonably be expected to have a significant effect on this resource identified in the statewide planning goals and/or present or future land uses identified in acknowledged comprehensive plans.

As of September 27, 1989, the State Parks and Recreation Department has the Primary management responsibility for the State of Oregon to manage the State Deschutes River Scenic Waterway Recreation Area. In 1989, the Department was to work with the Deschutes River Management Committee (DRMC), in cooperation with all managing agencies, to develop a comprehensive plan. In November, 1989, the Deschutes River (as part of the Federal Omnibus Wild & Scenic Rivers Bill) was designated a Wild & Scenic River also. This changed the format only by the additional overlay of the federal planning process. The Deschutes River Management should be incorporated into the appropriate jurisdictions plan to assist them with their Goal 5 implementation strategies for the protection of State Scenic Waterways in their jurisdiction.

COMPATIBILITY

Process: The Department, in coordination with other state agencies and the federal government, develop management plans for each scenic waterway to meet the mandate of the designation. Landowners, recreational users, local governments and other interested citizens also are included in the planning process.

City and county officials are an integral part of the coordination with state and federal agencies in the development of the river management plan. During periodic review or another plan amendment process, this information is provided to the local government for inclusion into the appropriate comprehensive land use planning and zoning strategies of the jurisdiction's comprehensive plan.

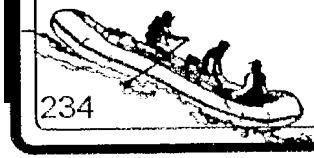
In addition to the opportunity for coordination during the management plan process, the Department will rely on local government response to notification of rule making for adoption of the master plan. If no response is received the department will presume compatibility. Each State Scenic Waterway file includes a mailing list of all local jurisdictions that are impacted by the designation. This action will use the Type 3 compatibility procedure as outlined in OAR 736-70-040.

Action 2: Approval of a proposed development or action within the State Scenic Waterway boundaries.

Authorities: ORS 390.845, and OAR 736-40-030 - 736-40-095 describe the Department's responsibilities and rules of land management within the Scenic Waterways through the notification process.

Analysis: The Department operates the program through a notification and review process. The program is designed to maintain the status quo, not to turn back time. Most existing land uses, constructed developments and water rights within the designated waterways are recognized and permitted. The Oregon Scenic Waterways Act does not allow public use of private property without the landowner's consent.

Construction of dams, development of impoundments and placer mining are the only activities prohibited within the boundary of a scenic waterway. Public and private property owners with proposals to build roads, houses, develop mines, cut timber or make other proposed changes within one-quarter mile of each side of a designated river must notify the Department in advance. Within one year of notification, the Department, relying on rules established for each designated waterway, must decide if a proposed change will affect the scenic beauty of the river. If a proposal is denied by the Department, a landowner may



modify a proposal and again seek approval. The Scenic Waterways Act allows the Park and Recreation Commission to purchase land if impairment of a river's scenic qualities cannot be prevented by any other means.

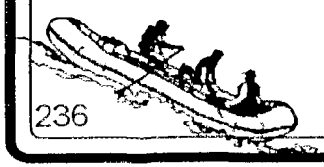
Management responsibilities are also assigned under the Act to other state agencies. These particular regulatory functions are established by the responsible agency's administrative rules. Filling in rivers, removing soil and gravel from rivers, or changing riverbanks in any way, regardless of the amount of soil and rock involved, requires special approval of the Division of State Lands. The Water Resources Department is required to insure that new instream water rights issued within a scenic waterway will be used only for fish, wildlife and recreation. Other uses may be permitted if flow is found sufficient to satisfy the fish, wildlife and recreation needs along with existing uses.

The Act is administered by the Park and Recreation Commission in such a manner as to protect and enhance the values which caused a scenic waterway to be included in the system. This action could be reasonably expected to have an impact on this Statewide Goal 5 resource, State Scenic Waterways.

Compatibility

Process: OAR 736-40-020 states: Agreements entered into and approvals given by the Commission in no way relieve persons or entities affected thereby of requirements established by other governmental agencies, local, state or federal. Notification forms and supplementary forms for timber harvest and salvage activities must be completed. When a complete notification form is received, a request for response is mailed to all applicable agencies and local governments. See appendix J (of master document) for the Form. The local government, at that time, has the opportunity to explain the local regulations and what permits are needed. Local regulations vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction and can be more stringent than scenic waterways requirements. The local government also informs the applicant for any development proposals within the State Scenic Waterway boundaries that the applicant must meet State Parks Scenic Waterway notification requirements. Obtaining a local land use or building permit is not the same as getting scenic waterway approval for improvements or changes. This action uses the Type 3 compatibility procedure as outlined on OAR 736-70-040.

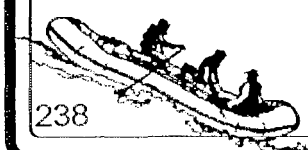
Additional review procedures are currently being developed and will be adopted by the Commission.



APPENDIX J - GLOSSARY

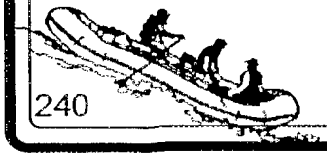
Affected environment	The biological, physical, and social environment that will or may be changed by proposed actions
Allocation system	See River use allocation system.
Alternative	A comprehensive management strategy; when a federal agency is considering an action, NEPA requires the agency to develop and analyze a range of reasonable alternatives, including a "no action" or "no change" alternative. The alternatives must respond to the issues, and must show a reasonable range of actions.
Anadromous fish	Those species of fish that mature in the ocean and migrate into freshwater rivers and streams to spawn; and example is salmon.
Background	In visual management terminology, refers to the visible terrain beyond the foreground and middleground where individual trees are not visible, but are blended into the total fabric of the stand. Also a portion of a view beyond 3 to 5 miles from the observer, and as far as the eye can detect objects.
Best Management Practices	A practice or combination of practices that is determined by a State (or designated area wide planning agency) after problem assessment, examination of alternative practices, and appropriate public participation, to be the most effective, practicable (including technological, economic, and institutional considerations) means of preventing or reducing the amount of pollution generated by nonpoint sources to a level compatible with water quality goals (Federal Register, Volume 40, No. 230 dated 11/28/75).
Big game	Large mammals hunted for sport. On public lands these include animals such as deer, elk, antelope and bear.
Big game summer range	An area of land, usually at higher elevations, used by deer and elk during the summer. Summer ranges are usually more extensive than winter ranges.
Big game winter range	An area of land, usually at lower elevations, used by migratory deer and elk during the winter months; usually more clearly defined and smaller than summer.

Biological diversity	Terms used in the Plan to provide goals and direction for evaluating the significance of old growth stands, minimizing fragmentation of existing old growth forests, and maintaining many of the structural components of unmanaged stands in managed stands.
Biological evaluation	A specific process required as part of an environmental assessment that evaluates the potential effect of the proposed project on Proposed, Endangered, Threatened, and Sensitive species and their habitats.
Characteristic landscape	In reference to the USDA Forest Service visual management system; the overall impression created by a landscape's unique combination of visual features (land, vegetation, water, structures) as seen in terms of form, line, color, and texture; synonymous with "visual landscape character".
Climax	The culminating stage in plant succession for a given site where the vegetation has reached a highly stable condition.
Corridor	Land adjacent to the Wild and Scenic river, managed along with the river to maintain and/or enhance the ORVs of the river. Corridor boundaries are delineated by the geography and the ORVs encompassing not more than 320 acres per river mile.
Critical Habitat	That habitat which is essential to the conservation of a threatened or endangered species.
Critical Habitat Area	Any area recommended to be reserved for species habitat as specified in Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.
Cultural resource	The remains of sites, structures, or objects used by humans in the past-historic or prehistoric.
Cumulative effects or impacts	Cumulative effect or impact on the environment which results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable fut ure actions, regardless of what agency (federal or nonfederal) or person undertakes such other actions. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time.
Decision notice	The written record of the decision made after a federal agency completes an environmental assessment. The decision notice chooses one of the alternatives, or a blend of the alternatives, and may be appealed by the public. The Forest Service combines the decision notice with the FONSI (Finding of No Significant Impact) required by NEPA.
Density	The number of encounters that occur between river recreationists. A physical concept relating to the idea of the number of people per unit of space.



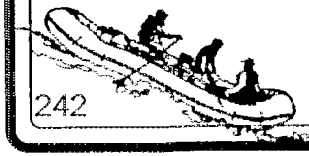
Designated corridor	Both the wild and scenic corridor and the scenic waterway, including all areas that are part of either designation.
Desired future condition	A vision of the desired future state of a specific area. Desired future condition gives managers goals for the area, but recognizes the dynamic state of the ecosystem, instead of listing future numerical outputs as goals.
Developed recreation	Recreation that requires facilities that, in turn, result in concentrated use of an area. An example of a developed recreation area is a campground facility that might include roads, parking lots, picnic tables, toilets, drinking water, and buildings.
Dispersed recreation	A general term referring to recreation use outside developed recreation sites; this includes activities such as scenic driving, hiking, backpacking, hunting, fishing, snowmobiling, horseback riding, cross-country skiing, and recreation in primitive environments.
Diversity	The distribution and abundance of different plant and animal communities and species within the area covered by a land and resource management plan.
Dominant	Trees with crowns extending above the general level of the crown cover and receiving full light from above and partly from the side; larger than the average trees in the stand, with crowns well developed but possibly somewhat crowded on the sides.
Ecosystem	A complete system of organisms considered together with their environment (for example; a marsh, a forest, or a lake).
Effects	Environmental changes resulting from a proposed action. Effects and impacts are synonymous. Effects include ecological (such as the effects on natural resources and on the components, structures, and functioning of affected ecosystems), aesthetic quality, historic, cultural, economic, social, or healthy effects, whether direct, indirect, or cumulative. Effects may also include those resulting from actions that may have both beneficial and detrimental effects, even if on balance the agency believes that the effects will be beneficial.
Endangered species	Any species of animal or plant that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range. Plant or animal species identified by the Secretary of the Interior as endangered in accordance with the 1973 Endangered Species Act.
Environmental Assessment	The concise public document required by the regulations for implementing the procedural requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act.
Fecal coliform	A bacteria found in the human colon; a fecal coliform count is used as an indicator of fecal contamination, if any, in water.

Fisheries habitats	Streams, lakes, and reservoirs that support fish populations.
Floodplain	The lowland and relatively flat area adjoining inland waters, including, at a minimum, that area subject to a 1% or greater chance of flooding in any given year.
Forage	All browse and nonwoody plants that are available to livestock or game animals and used for grazing or harvested for feeding.
Foreground	A term used in visual management to describe the portions of a view between the observer and up to 1/4 to 1/2 mile distance.
FONSI	Finding of No Significant Impact. Required by NEPA when a federal agency prepares an environmental assessment; documents the reasons why the impacts of the proposed action are not significant and, therefore, the agency is not preparing an environmental impact statement.
Free-flowing	As applied to any river or section of a river, means existing or flowing in natural condition without impoundment, diversion, straightening, rip-rapping, or other modification of the waterway. The existence, however, of low dams, diversion works, and other minor structures at the time any river is proposed for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System shall not automatically bar its consideration for such inclusion: Provided, that this shall not be construed to authorize, intend, or encourage future construction of such structures within components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.
Habitat	The area where a plant or animal lives and grows under natural conditions. Habitat consists of living and non-living attributes and provides all requirements for food and shelter.
Headwaters	The upper tributaries of a river.
Hiding cover	Vegetation that will hide 90% of an adult deer or elk from the view of a human at a distance of 200 feet or less. The distance at which the animal is essentially hidden is called a "sight distance".
Historic site	Site associated with the history, tradition, or cultural heritage of national, state, or local interest and of enough significance to merit preservation or restoration.
Hydrology	The scientific study of the properties distribution and effects of water in the atmosphere, on the earth's surface, and in soil and rocks.



Interdisciplinary Team (IDT)	A group of individuals with different professional resource backgrounds assembled to solve a problem or perform a task. The team is assembled out of recognition that no one scientific discipline is sufficiently broad to adequately solve the problem.
Intermediate	Trees shorter than those in the dominant and codominant classes but have crowns extending into the crown cover formed by dominant and codominant trees; receiving a little direct sunlight from above but none from the sides; usually with small crowns considerably crowed on the sides.
Intermittent stream	A stream that runs water in most months, but does not run water during the dry season during most years.
Issue	A point, matter, or question of public discussion or interest to be addressed or decided through the planning process.
Landscape management	The art and science of planning and administering the use of Public lands in such ways that the visual effects maintain or upgrade human psychological welfare. The planning and design of the visual aspects of multiple-use land management.
Large woody material	Material greater than 20 inches in diameter and 33 feet in length.
Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC)	A concept for managing change in a natural area, based on the premise that ecological and social change will occur as a result of natural and human factors. With the LAC concept, management's goal is to keep the character and amount of change that results from human factors within acceptable levels that are consistent with objectives for the area.
Management area	An area with similar management objectives and common management prescription.
Management plan	A plan guiding overall management of an area administered by a federal or state agency; plan usually includes objectives, goals, standards and guidelines management actions, and monitoring plans.
Mature timber	Trees that have attained full development, particularly height, and are in full seed production.
Middleground	A term used in visual management to describe the portions of a view extending from the foreground zone out to 3 to 5 miles from the observer.
Mitigation	Mitigation includes: avoiding the impact altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action; minimizing impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation; rectifying the impacts by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment; reducing or eliminating the impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action; and compensating for the impact by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments.

Monitoring and evaluation	The periodic evaluation of Plan management practices on a sample basis to determine how well objectives have been met.
Multiple use	The management of all the various renewable resources of the Public Lands so that they are utilized in the combination that will best meet the needs of the American people; making the most judicious use of the land for some or all of these resources or related services over areas large enough to provide sufficient latitude for periodic adjustments in use to conform to changing needs and conditions; that some lands will be used for less than all of the resources; and harmonious and coordinated management of the various resources, each with the other, without impairment of the productivity of the land and with consideration being given to the relative values of the various resources; and not necessarily the combination of uses that will give the greatest dollar return or the greatest unit output.
National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)	Commonly known as NEPA; became a law in 1969. NEPA is the basic national charter for protection of the environment. The Act requires all federal agencies to consider and analyze all significant environmental impacts of any action proposed by those agencies, to inform and involve the public in the agency's decision making process, and to consider the environmental impacts in the agency's decision making process.
Old growth	Timber stands with the following characteristics: large mature and over-mature trees in the overstory, large standing dead trees (snags), dead and decaying logs on the ground, and a multi-layered canopy with trees of several age classes.
Optimal Cover	Habitat for deer and elk which has tree overstory and understory, shrub and herbaceous layers; the overstory canopy generally exceeding 70% crown closure and dominant trees generally exceed 21 inches diameter at breast height (d.b.h.); provides snow intercept, thermal cover, and forage.
Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORV)	Term used in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, to qualify as outstandingly remarkable, a resource value must be a unique, rare, or exemplary feature that is significant at a regional or national level.
Overstory	That portion of the trees, in a forest or in a stand of more than one story, forming the upper or uppermost canopy; comprised mainly of dominant and codominant trees.
Peak flow	The highest flow of water attained during a particular flood for a given stream or river.
Perennial stream	A stream that flows year round.



Placer mining	The extraction of valuable heavy minerals from a mass of sand, gravel, or other similar alluvial material by concentration in running water.
Prehistoric site	An area which contains important evidence and remains of the life and activities of early societies which did not record their history.
Public involvement	A Forest Service and BLM process designed to broaden the information base upon which agency decisions are made by informing the public about agency activities, plans, and decisions, and encouraging public understanding about and participation in the planning processes which lead to final decision making.
Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS)	A framework for stratifying and defining classes of outdoor recreation environments, activities, and experience opportunities. The settings activities, and opportunities for obtaining experiences have been arranged along a continuum of spectrum divided into seven classes; Primitive, Semiprimitive Nonmotorized, Semiprimitive Motorized, Roaded Modified, Roaded Natural, Rural, and Urban.

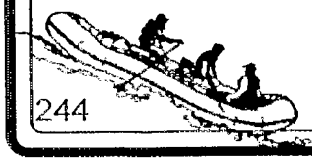
1. **Primitive** - Area is characterized by an essentially unmodified natural environment of fairly large size. Interaction between users is very low and evidence of other users is minimal. The area is managed to be essentially free from evidence of human-induced restrictions and controls. Motorized use within the area is not permitted.

2. **Semiprimitive Nonmotorized** - Area is characterized by a predominately natural or natural-appearing environment of moderate to large size. Interaction between users is low, but there is often evidence of other users. The area is managed in such a way that minimum on-site controls and restrictions may be present, but would be subtle. Motorized recreation use is not permitted, but local roads used for other resource management activities may be present on a limited basis. Use of such roads is restricted to minimize impacts on recreational experience opportunities.

3. **Semiprimitive Motorized** - Area is characterized by a predominately natural or natural-appearing environment of moderate to large size. Concentration of users is low, but there is often evidence of other users. The area is managed in such a way with minimum on-site controls and restrictions. Use of local primitive or collector roads with predominately natural surfaces and trails suitable for motor bikes is permitted.

4. **Roaded Natural** - Area is characterized by predominately natural-appearing environments with moderate evidence of the sights and sounds of human activity. Such evidence usually harmonizes with the natural environment. Interaction between users may be moderate to high, with evidence of other users prevalent. Resource modification and utilization practices are evident. Conventional motorized use is allowed and incorporated into construction standards and design of facilities.

	5. **Roaded Modified** - Area is characterized by substantially modified natural environment. Resource modification and utilization practices are to enhance specific recreation activities and to maintain vegetative cover and soil. Sights and sounds of humans are readily evident. Substantially modified natural environment where roads, landings, slash, and debris may be strongly dominant from within, yet remain subordinate from distant sensitive roads and highways.
Rehabilitation	Action taken to restore, protect, or enhance site productivity, water quality, or other resource values over a period of time.
Resident fish	Fish species that complete their entire life cycle in fresh water; non-anadromous fish; an example is brown trout.
Resource Assessment	An evaluation of the resources and values associated with a wild and scenic river and the river corridor; the evaluation determines the level of significance of river-related values.
Resource values	A resource, natural or social, that is found in an area; resource values may have varying levels of significance. Examples of resource values are fish and recreation.
Riparian	Pertaining to areas of land directly influenced by water or influencing water. Riparian areas usually have visible vegetative or physical characteristics reflecting this water influence. Stream sides, lake borders, or marshes are typical riparian areas.
Riparian buffer	Riparian lands that are managed to protect the aquatic and riparian ecosystem; buffer protects water quality and temperature, habitat along the banks, upland habitat for aquatic and riparian species, and some or all of the floodplain.
Riparian management	Site-specific boundaries established by the Forest Service or BLM for management practices within riparian areas.
River use allocation system	A system for controlling boating use that limits the total number of boaters on the river, and rations use among boaters. (Boats include rafts, kayaks, and inflatables.)
River use regulation system	A system for controlling boating use that uses a variety of rules, the rules may or may not include limits on the total number of boaters.
Scoping	A first step in the NEPA process and in the river planning process. Through scoping, issues, concerns, and their significance are identified and the range of alternatives developed. Scoping is done within the agency, with the public, and with other agencies.



Scheduled Timber Harvest	Any planned timber harvest which would contribute to the district or Forest cut commitment, and would be a part of the long term timber harvest planning base.
Second Growth	Forest growth that has become established following some interference, such as cutting, serious fire, or insect attack, with the previous forest crop.
Sedimentation	A process where material carried in suspension by water flows into streams and rivers, increasing turbidity and eventually settling to the bottom.
Selection cutting	The annual or periodic removal of trees (particularly mature trees), individually or in small groups, from an uneven-aged forest.
Sensitive species	Plant or animal species which are susceptible or vulnerable to activity impacts or habitat alterations. Those species that have appeared in the Federal Register as proposed for classification or are under consideration for official listing as endangered or threatened species, that are on an official State list, or that are recognized by the Regional Forester as needing special management to prevent placement on Federal or State lists.
Snag	A standing dead tree.
Social carrying	The level of use that exceeds acceptable levels by the norm of river capacity recreationists. The level of use that impairs or alters human experience.
Socio-economic	Of, or relating to, social or economic factors, or a combination of both social and economic factors.
Spawning gravel	Sorted, clean gravel patches of a size appropriate for the needs of resident or anadromous fish.
Special attributes	Term used in planning for State Scenic Waterways; to qualify as a special attribute, a resource value must be a unique, rare, or exemplary feature that is significant at a regional or national level.
Special Interest Areas	Areas managed to make recreation opportunities available for the understanding of the earth and its geological, historical, archaeological, and botanical features.
Special Wildlife Habitat	A habitat which is unique and has a special function not provided by plant communities or successional stages; includes riparian zones, wetlands, cliffs, talus, and meadows.
Standards and Guidelines	Principles specifying conditions or levels of environmental quality to be achieved.

State Scenic Waterway	Those rivers or sections of rivers designated as State Scenic Waterways by the State of Oregon, either under the voter initiative that established the program in 1970, or under subsequent ballot measures or legislative acts. Parts of the Wallowa/ Grande Ronde River were designated as a State Scenic Waterway in the Oregon Rivers Initiative, a statewide ballot measure passed in 1988.
Stream buffer	Vegetation left along a stream channel ω protect the channel or water from the effects of logging, road building, or other management activity.
Stream class	Classification of streams based on the present and foreseeable uses made of the water, and the potential effects of on-site changes on downstream uses. Four classes are defined: **Class I** - Perennial or intermittent streams that provide a source of water for domestic use; are used by large numbers of anadromous fish or significant sports fish for spawning, rearing or migration and/or are major tributaries to other Class I streams. **Class II** - Perennial or intermittent streams that are used by fish for spawning rearing or migration and/or may be tributaries to Class I streams or other Class II streams. **Class III** - All other perennial streams not meeting higher class criteria. **Class IV** - All other intermittent streams not meeting higher class criteria.
Stream structure	The arrangement of logs, boulders, and meanders which modify the flow of water, thereby causing the formation of pools and gravel bars in streams. Generally, there is a direct relationship between complexity of structure and fish habitat. Complex structure is also an indication of watershed stability.
Substrata	The material forming the underlying layer of streams. Substrates may be bedrock, gravel, boulders, sand, clay, etc.
Suppression	The process of extinguishing or ∞ nfining fire.
Terminus	The beginning or ending point; in this case, the beginning or ending point of a legally designated corridor, such as the Wild and Scenic Grande Ronde River.
Territory	The area which an animal defends, usually during breeding season, against intruders of its own species.

Thermal cover	Cover used by animals to ameliorate effects of weather.
Threatened and Endangered (T&E) Species	See Threatened species; see Endangered species.
Threatened species	Those plant or animal species likely to become endangered species throughout all or a significant portion of their range within the foreseeable future. (See also Endangered species).
Travel corridor	A route followed by animals along a belt or band of suitable cover or habitat.
Turbidity	The degree of opaqueness, or cloudiness, produced in water by suspended particulate matter, either organic or inorganic. Measured by light filtration or transmission and expressed in Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU's).
Understory	The trees and other woody species growing under a more or less continuous cover of branches and foliage formed collectively by the upper portion of adjacent trees and other woody growth; comprised mainly of intermediate and suppressed trees.
Viewshed	Portion of the forest that is seen from a major travel route or high use location.
Visual resource	The composite of basic terrain, geologic features, water features, vegetative patterns, and land use effects that typify a land unit and influence the visual appeal the unit may have for visitors. **Class I Objective** - The objective of this class is to preserve the existing character of the landscape. This class provides for natural ecological changes; however, it does not preclude very limited management activity. The level of change to the characteristic landscape should be very low and must not attract attention. **Class II Objective** - The objective of this class is to retain the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the characteristic landscape should be low. Management activities may be seen, but should not attract the attention of the casual observer. Any changes must repeat the basic elements of form, line, color, and texture found in the predominant natural features of the characteristic landscape.
Watershed	The entire land area that contributes water to a drainage system or stream.
Wetlands	Areas that are inundated by surface or ground water often enough to support, and usually do support, primarily plants and animals that require saturated or seasonally saturated soil conditions for growth and reproduction.

White water rapids

Class 1: Moving water with a few riffles and small waves. Few difficulty rating or no obstructions.

Class 2: Easy rapids with waves up to 3 feet. Wide clear channels are obvious without scouting. Some maneuvering is required.

Class 3: Rapids with high, irregular waves often capable of swamping an open canoe. Narrow passages may require complex maneuvering. May need to scout from shore.

Class 4: Long difficult rapids with constricted passages. Requires precise maneuvering in very turbulent waters. Scouting from shore is often necessary. Conditions make rescue difficult. Generally not possible for canoes. Boaters in covered canoes and kayaks should be able to Eskimo roll.

Class 5: Extremely difficult, long, and very violent rapids with highly congested routes that should be scouted from shore. Rescue conditions are difficult. Life may be endangered in the event of a mishap. Ability to Eskimo roll is essential.

Class 6: Difficulties of Class 5 carried to the extreme of navigability. Very dangerous. For experts only.

Wild and Scenic River

Those rivers or sections of rivers designated as such by Congressional action under the 1968 Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, as supplemented and amended, or those sections of rivers designated as wild, scenic, or recreational by an act of the legislature of the state or states through which they flow. Wild and Scenic rivers may be classified and administered under one or more of the following categories.

1. **Wild River Areas** - Those rivers or sections of rivers that are free of impoundments and generally inaccessible except by trail, with watersheds or shorelines essentially primitive and waters unpolluted.

2. **Scenic River Areas** - Those rivers or sections of rivers that are free of impoundments, with watersheds still largely primitive and shorelines largely undeveloped, but accessible in places by roads.

3. **Recreational River Areas** - Those rivers or sections of rivers that are readily accessible by road or railroad, that may have some development along their shorelines, and that may have undergone some impoundment of diversion in the past.

Winter range

An area used by deer and elk during the winter months: usually at lower elevation and/or on south and west exposures.

Woody material

Organic materials necessary for stream channel stability and maintenance of watershed condition. It includes large logs and root wads.

APPENDIX K - OREGON, COUNTY LAND USE ADMINISTRATION

This section describes, in a general way, county land use classifications and allowed uses within the Grande Ronde and Wallowa scenic waterway corridors. Both corridors are primarily within Wallowa County, but small portions of each are within Union County.

Most of the land (both corridors, both counties) is zoned for either Exclusive Farm Use or Timber-Grazing. The Exclusive Farm Use zone is intended "...to provide areas for the continuation of existing commercial agricultural activities and permit the establishment of only those new uses which are compatible with agricultural activities...to guarantee the preservation of the areas so classified for farm use free from conflicting non-farm uses." Similarly, the Timber-Grazing zone is intended "...to provide areas for commercial farm and forest activities and permit the establishment of only those new uses which are compatible with agricultural activities...to guarantee the preservation of the areas so classified for farm use free from conflicting non-farm, non-forest use."

In both zones, uses permitted outright are:

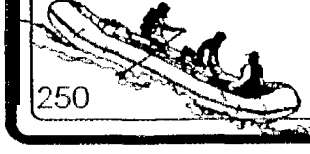
(1) Farm uses.
(2) Management and harvest of forest products.
(3) A single-family dwelling for the operator (if the homesite is on a lot or parcel managed as part of the operation not smaller than the minimum lot size).
(4) Another single-family dwelling on the same lot or parcel where assistance is necessary for management of the operation.
(5) Nonresidential buildings customarily provided in conjunction with the farm or forest uses.

In addition, public or private schools and solid waste disposal facilities are allowed within the Exclusive Farm Use zone. Some of these outright uses are subject to county review to ensure that they fall within the provisions and definitions set forth in state statutes and county ordinances.

Both zones allow the creation of new lots greater than 160 acres, following county review. New lots smaller than 160 acres may also be approved, if the county finds that certain conditions are met and following a public hearing.

Both zones also allow for certain uses other than those listed above, subject to findings of fact and a public hearing on whether a particular use should be allowed. If the county decides to allow a use, it may impose conditions that must be met by the landowner. These conditional uses include:

(1) Single-family dwellings not necessary for farm or forest operations.
(2) Temporary placement of mobile homes or travel trailers under certain hardship conditions.
(3) Churches or other meeting places of non-profit groups.
(4) Public utility services, except transmission towers over 200 feet high.
(5) Exploration, mining and processing of geothermal, aggregate or sub-surface resources.
(6) Commercial activities in conjunction with farm use.
(7) Private or public parks, playgrounds, campgrounds, fishing and hunting preserves.
(8) Community centers operated by a government agency or a non-profit organization.
(9) Personal use airports and helicopter pads.
(10) Certain home occupations.
(11) Temporary facilities for the processing of forest products.
(12) Cultivation and harvest of aquatic species.
(13) The boarding of horses for profit.
(14) Golf courses.



APPENDIX L - BIOLOGICAL EVALUATION, LOWER GRANDE RONDE RIVER AND LETTER OF RESPONSE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

BIOLOGICAL EVALUATION
SECTION 7 CONSULTATION FOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT LANDS
IN 5 HYDROLOGIC UNITS IN
BAKER RESOURCE AREA, VALE DISTRICT
JANUARY 1993

With the official listing by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) of Snake River Chinook salmon stocks as threatened and sockeye salmon stocks as endangered on April 22, 1992, and November 20, 1992 respectively, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is required to comply with the Endangered Species Act (ESA) Section 7(a) 2 - to insure that any BLM action is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of the species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of critical habitat of such species. Within the scope of this Biological Evaluation the BLM will ensure compliance with the Endangered Species Act for the discretionary actions of authorizing livestock grazing on BLM administered lands.

The Vale District, has evaluated the impact of issuing livestock grazing leases to the listed salmonid species on 719 tracts in 5 Hydrologic Units of northeastern Oregon and southeastern Washington. The BLM has prepared separate Biological Evaluations - one for each Hydrologic Unit. Much of the background data for these Units is the same because they are in the same region, however site specific analyses are provided by Hydrologic Unit. The tracts evaluated range in size from 5 acres to 640 acres and are scattered throughout the region. The major concentration of BLM land is along the lower Grande Ronde River.

BLM found 149 tracts with grazing leases in the 5 Hydrologic Units with a may affect impact on listed salmonids. BLM ownership is less than 1% of the total acreage within all Hydrologic units.

BLM ownership with a may affect determination is less than 1% of the listed salmonid habitat within 4 of the 5 Hydrologic Units. In the Lower Grande Ronde Hydrologic Unit, BLM's ownership with may affect determination, is 27% of the Fall Chinook spawning habitat. Along some stretches of the Lower Grande Ronde river, BLM owns both sides of the river and in other sections only one side. In either case, one mile of river frontage on one or both sides was counted as one mile.

Consultations will be held with the individual lessees to discuss objectives and assess needed changes in grazing use, treatments and time frames. Stipulations will be added to the leases, detailing needed changes. If the lessee can not fit BLM requirements into his/her operation, they will not be offered the lease. If the tract is leased, monitoring will be established to ascertain if objectives are being met. If the objectives are not met, the treatment will either be altered or the lease canceled.

The BLM will apply the following principles, mitigating measures and Land Use Plan decisions in the manner prescribed in this document.

- Season of use adjustments
- Duration of use adjustments
- Establishment of grazing systems designed to accomplish the short and long term objectives for improving the riparian habitat and overall ecosite condition.
- Rehabilitative measures

Possible rehabilitative measures may require fences, land treatments, and other range improvement projects. These will be subject to approval through the NEPA process and will be processed through NMFS. The Baker Resource Management Plan (RMP) (Land Use Plan) specifies more specifically the following:

- Livestock grazing will be deferred on areas where vegetative manipulation projects occur. Livestock will be deferred either by fencing treated areas, or by resting the treated pasture for 2 to 5 growing seasons.

- In all areas where the impacts of grazing cannot be mitigated, grazing will be excluded.

The recovery of the listed salmon species depends on the success of all land owners and managers working together. Although BLM has a small proportion of the total lands, BLM is committed to promoting the benefits of protecting and restoring fish habitat. Furthermore, BLM will continue to work with various Basin Planning Groups and coordinate with other ongoing Federal, Regional, State, Tribal and local programs to accomplish this goal.

Therefore, impacts that may affect salmon habitat would be not likely to adversely affect the Spring, Summer and/or Fall Chinook salmon. BLM intends to issue livestock grazing leases on these tracts upon completion of consultation with the lessees and necessary adjustments in lease stipulations have been developed and implemented.

I have reviewed the Biological Evaluation and concur with the findings as identified above.

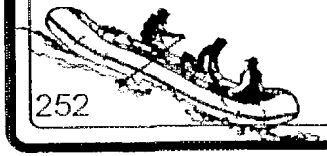
/s/ Ron Wiley

Ron Wiley,
Fisheries Biologist

I concur:

/s/ Jack D. Albright

Jack Albright,
Area Manager, Baker R.A., Vale District



Letter of Response

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Northwest Region
7600 Sand Point Way, N.E.
Bin C15700, Bldg. 1
Seattle, Washington 98115-0070

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JUL 22 1993
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JUL 20 1993

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Baker R.A.
JUL 28 '93

F/NW

Mr. James E. May, District Manager
Bureau of Land Management
Vale District Office
100 Oregon Street
Vale, Oregon 97918

Re: 1993 Grazing Program for the Lower Grande Ronde, Upper Grande Ronde, Imnaha, Wallowa, and Lower Snake/Asotin Hydrologic Units

Dear Mr. May:

This is in response to your letter of June 16, 1993, regarding informal consultation for the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) 1993 livestock grazing program for the subject hydrologic units on the Baker Resource Area. Your June 16 letter indicated that the Vale District intends to meet the salmon protection and enhancement objectives outlined in the biological evaluations and previous correspondence from National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) (May 13, 1993, letter from Rolland Schmitten, Regional Director, NMFS, to James May, District Manager, BLM). Further explanation of how the District intends to comply with specific protection and monitoring requirements was also provided in the June 16 letter.

Based on BLM's acceptance and implementation of the mitigation and monitoring measures referenced above, NMFS concurs with the BLM that the subject grazing program is not likely to adversely affect listed Snake River salmon species. Therefore, informal consultation with NMFS under 50 CFR 402.13 is hereby completed for the subject action. BLM must reinitiate this ESA consultation with NMFS if there is an occurrence at the project, or new information becomes available, revealing effects of the action that may affect the listed species or critical habitat in a manner, or to an extent not previously considered.

If you have any questions, please contact Mike Tehan at (503) 231-2338.

Sincerely,

Rolland A. Schmitten
Regional Director

cc: Baker

cc: Ron Wiley, BLM, Portland

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